

RIGHT THINKING

Tessa Keswick prepares to grab back the policy agenda for the Tories, **PAGE 18**



BEST BAR NONE

Welcome for wine buffs as pubs of year celebrate, **P9**



The new k.d. lang: love the voice, but where has the passion gone?, **P37**

25P

THE TIMES

No. 65,391 FRIDAY OCTOBER 6 1995

Lang attacks Telecom monopoly

Tebbit backs Blair's cable deal with BT

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND PHILIP BASSETT

LORD TEBBIT embarrassed the Government yesterday by praising Tony Blair's foresight as the Labour leader sealed a pact allowing British Telecom to wire up Britain.

The former Conservative chairman, now a BT director, countered government claims that Mr Blair had jumped the gun on Tuesday when he told his party conference of plans to let BT link every school, hospital and library to the information superhighway. In return, it would be allowed to compete with cable and satellite companies in broadcasting entertainment.

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, said the deal would create a private monopoly for BT and accused Labour of stitching up a "backroom deal" favouring one company at the expense of others.

But Lord Tebbit said in a BBC interview that it was to Mr Blair's credit that he had recognised the value to the country of building the information network. He wished that Mr Lang or his predecessor, Michael Heseltine, had made the deal.

Although he was clearly representing his company's interests, the Government's discomfort was heightened by the appearance of one of Labour's toughest opponents in Brighton. He even praised Mr Blair's conference speech and last night had a discussion with him in the conference hall. Sir Iain Vallance, the BT chairman, later arrived at Mr Blair's hotel for brief talks on their agreement.

Both Lord Tebbit and Mr Blair made plain that the Labour leader's statement on Tuesday had been agreed in advance with BT and Mr Blair said: "The Conservatives have shot themselves in the foot in a monumental way."

Last night, Mr Lang changed tack as he returned to the attack. After initial claims that there was no deal, he now said that if there was one, it was not in the public interest. "If we had done a sort of deal with BT, no other cable company would have entered the market," he said.

He also wrote to Mr Blair saying the deal would require a change in BT's licence. "Then there is the position of many other companies who have entered this market in good faith, against the background of public undertakings, investing billions of pounds."

Last year the Government turned down demands from the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee for a change to BT's licence to allow it to compete in the cable market. The company is planning a £15 billion information network, but is prevented from using it to provide home entertainment until 2002.

Mr Lang has now asked Mr Blair and Sir Iain for details of their discussions. He said: "Labour says there is a deal. Sir Iain Vallance has told me there is no deal. Who is correct? Even if there is a deal, hatched in private between the Labour Party and BT, it cannot be seen to be in the public interest. Competition and choice best serve the consumer, not private, sweetheart deals with one company that undermine the others."

Mr Blair retaliated by accusing the Government of trying to undermine an arrangement that would benefit the whole country. He said: "What you have is the extraordinary and inept sight of a government minister who could have concluded the deal himself trying to upset arrangements we have agreed. This competition has to be phased in so that no one has a monopoly in the market, but we should not be shutting out one of our major companies."

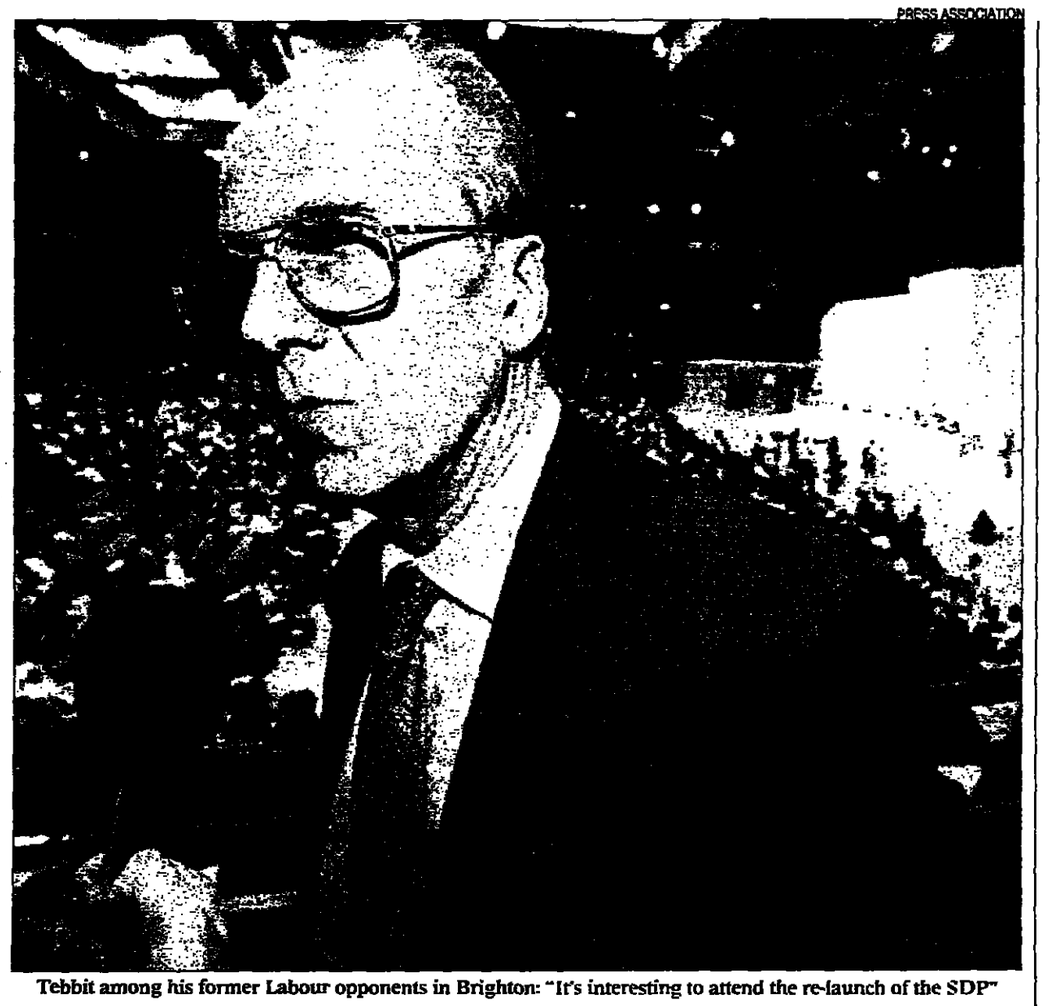
Sir Iain said last night: "There is no deal as such between BT and the Labour Party, but there is an understanding that if they get into power, they will adopt the recommendations of the trade and industry committee to allow BT and Mercury to compete with the cable and television companies."

Conference reports and Peter Riddell, page 10

A winning week

TONY BLAIR's grip on his party was underlined last night as he completed the Labour conference's main policy business without suffering a single defeat. He even beat off left-wing demands to scrap the Trident missile system.

The last threat disappeared when delegates backed his pledge to hold a referendum on proportional representation after the next election. Officials said it was the most trouble-free week in memory.



PRESS ASSOCIATION

Tebbit among his former Labour opponents in Brighton: "It's interesting to attend the re-launch of the SDP"

Enter Mischief (aka New Norman)

SADLY the Brighton beach is shingle, or he would have been out kicking down kiddies' sandcastles.

People dropped their sandwiches as he passed. In the tiny Sky studio journalists jostled. Up at the Telecom stall assistants waited nervously. Two policemen fidgeted by the stairs. Modelling his tactics on the great Thatcher Arrivals of the past, Lord Tebbit had let it be known only by rumour that he might be coming: but when? News of alleged sittings swept the corridors.

In he strode, photographers tripping at his feet.

Conference Sketch

Matthew Parris

"Welcome to new Labour, Lord Tebbit." "Any comments on Blair's deal with BT?"

"How does it feel, Lord Tebbit, to be the conference darling?" The Prince of Darkness purried. His grin was wicked.

Reality has gone haywire in Brighton. Roy Hattersley becomes working-class hero — and now Norman Tebbit, in the dual guise of messenger boy for Telecom and roving reporter for BSkyB is received into Labour's parlour with — if not affection — a mighty curiosity.

"It's ... interesting," came the mordant crackle, "to attend the relaunch of the SDP. I must say they're doing it very well."

Was he here to make mischief against Labour? or the Tories? Seasoned Tebbit-watchers know that to ask "mischief against whom?" is to misunderstand the man. He simply is mischief: *mischief made flesh, mischief in boots, mischief on a stick, mischief in ermine. "Against whom?" is decided on the wing and by whim, weather or digestion. You might as well ask whom a Scorpion is created to sting. Anyone! A dig at new Labour, a kick in the groin for the Cabinet, a sly slide swipe at Heseltine ... oh yes, our Norman was enjoying his day at the seaside.*

So was Michael Connarty. The Labour MP for Falkirk East, we read, "is to experience becoming pregnant at 11.45am at the Royal College of Midwives' stand today". We blanched. To experience being pregnant is one thing; to experience becoming pregnant would be amusing but,

Continued on page 2, col 4

Britain to cut force as Bosnia ceasefire is agreed

BY JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN is to bring home 3,300 troops of 24 Airmobile Brigade from Bosnia. The decision was announced last night after President Clinton announced that the warring parties had agreed to a 60-day ceasefire.

The truce, due to start on October 10, is to be followed by talks in Washington on October 25. These could lead to a full peace conference in Paris. Mr Clinton described the agreement, brokered by Richard Holbrooke, his peace envoy, as "an important moment in the painful history of Bosnia".

However, the guns will fall silent by one minute past midnight next Tuesday only if full gas and electricity supplies have been restored in Sarajevo, as demanded by the Bosnian Government.

After Britain's partial withdrawal of 24 Airmobile Brigade, 700 soldiers will be left behind to protect the brigade's equipment which will be kept in readiness at the base at Ploce in Croatia. The reduction in the size of the force means that Britain's military presence will be cut to about 5,000, although the brigade will remain on seven days' notice to return to Bosnia.

The brigade was sent to Bosnia two months ago to be part of the new 10,000-man Rapid Reaction Force. However, the troops have not been used, although their presence, with 105mm light guns and transport helicopters, provided vital extra muscle when the UN needed to act tough with the Bosnian Serbs. The other half of the reaction force, consisting of British, French and Dutch troops, will remain in Bosnia, based on Mount Igman near Sarajevo.

UN to shrink force, page 15
Letters, page 21

Burglars bring the house down

Bungling burglars have destroyed a firework factory when the welding equipment they were using to break into a storeroom triggered a huge explosion.

The blast was heard five miles away as an old concrete bunker — formerly used by the Ministry of Defence to store ammunition and made of 12in thick concrete to withstand bombs — was reduced to rubble. Page 3

OJ lawyer in plea bargain

One of O.J. Simpson's lawyers discussed a plea bargain that would have involved him admitting manslaughter and one of his close friends going to jail for five years, another defence attorney said yesterday. F. Lee Bailey's remarks further exposed the rift within the defence team and showed that even some in Mr Simpson's inner circle doubted his innocence. Page 14

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



MAGAZINE
Anne McElvoy meets the Prime Minister-in-waiting

WEEKEND
Top 50 ski holidays

CAR 95
Win an in-car traffic jam detector

WEEKEND MONEY
A guide to tax havens

1015
Brookside meets Beverly Hills: the new teen soap

VISION
The seven-day TV and radio guide

'Benefit tourists' deprived of claim to be housed

BY LIN JENKINS AND IAN MURRAY

HOMELESS unemployed immigrants from other European countries do not have to be housed by local authorities in Britain, the High Court ruled in a test case yesterday.

Deputy Judge Roger Henderson, QC, said that Westminster City Council acted within the law when officials refused to accommodate two homeless HIV sufferers, Gaudenzio Castelli, 35, a flower seller from Bergamo, Italy, and José Tristán-Garcia, 32, a barman from Almeria, Spain.

In an endorsement of government policy to crack down on European nationals who take advantage of the benefit system — the so-called "benefit tourists" — the judge said those likely to be a burden on the host state "should head home". The judgment comes as a relief to councils throughout the country which could have been forced to give council houses at taxpayers' expense for life to thousands of unemployed EU nationals.

The judge ruled that the London council acted lawfully earlier this year when officials refused to house the single men who had entered the country lawfully as EU citizens but were unemployed, penniless and had no reasonable prospect of finding work.

The Home Office subsequently ruled they were not lawfully resident because they were not working and were unlikely to do so.

Hugh McGeever, Westminster's housing demand manager, last night welcomed the judge's clarification of the law and said it could affect hundreds of EU nationals. Mike Canham, head of the housing provisions unit of Westminster Council, said: "The potential costs are horrendous."

Westminster council is reconsidering the case of Mr Tristan-Garcia as he found employment after the council made the ruling not to house him. Mr Castelli will continue to be granted temporary accommodation pending the outcome of any appeal, which the judge said should be heard as a matter of urgency.

The Association of London Government hailed the ruling. "It clarifies the law and tidies up a potential anomaly. It usually involves young people who come over to work in the hotel trade, lose their job and then try to get accommodation. They mostly tend to drift back after a while."

Immigrants' tale, page 2

Major to name 12 life peers

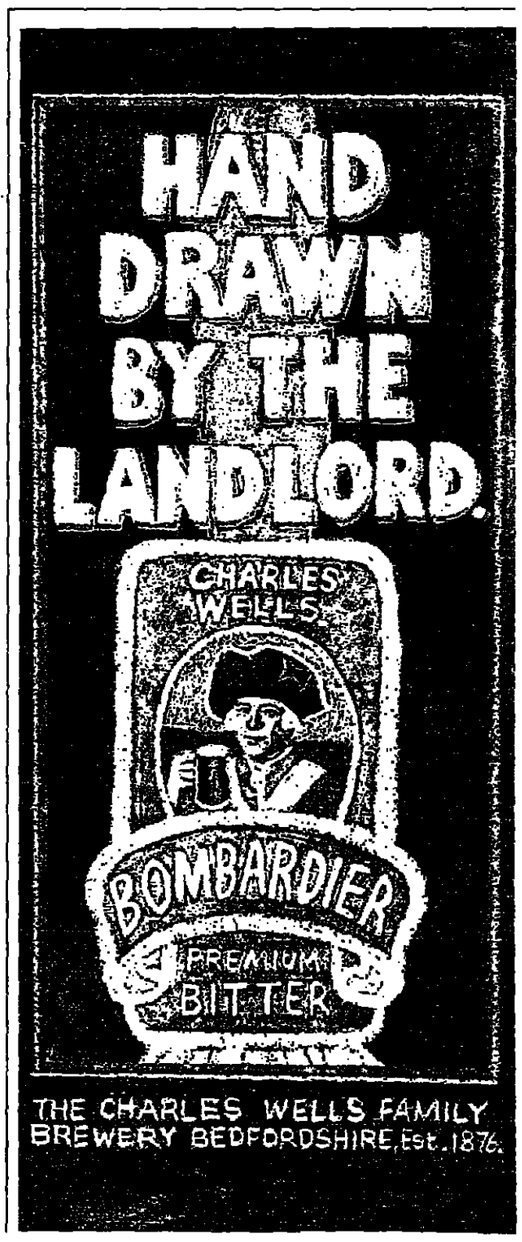
BY SHEILA GUNN

JOHN MAJOR will soon announce 12 new working peers to strengthen the front benches in the House of Lords. Under pressure from the opposition parties, the Prime Minister has agreed to ennoble six Conservatives, four Labour and two Liberal Democrats.

Although the Tory list will largely reward faithful service to the party, new peers nominated by Tony Blair and Paddy Ashdown will be expected to playe an active role.

On Mr Blair's list is Professor Robert Winston, the consultant who pioneered infertility treatments. There is speculation that he has also nominated Sir Gordon Borrie, who chaired Labour's Commission on Social Justice.

Lords reform, page 12



Heaney awarded Nobel Prize for Literature

BY DANIEL JOHNSON LITERARY EDITOR

SEAMUS HEANEY, the Irish poet, was yesterday awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature by the Swedish Academy of Letters. But he was on holiday in Greece when the $1 million prize was announced, and remained in blissful ignorance for several hours while frantic efforts were made to find him.

Politicians, writers and family members were quick to hail the Ulster-born Nobel laureate, the first Irishman to win the prize since Samuel Beckett in 1969 and W. B. Yeats in 1923. The Irish President, Mary Robinson, hinted at the often controversial impact of Mr Heaney's work in Ireland. He had, she said, "excited, enlightened, challenged and inspired, but never disappointed".

Mr Heaney's brother Hugh insisted the prize "won't change him", and said he would continue to revisit Derry. "He loves coming back to where he was brought up." Born a British citizen but now resident in Dublin, Mr Heaney, 56, could afford to give up his professorial chair at Harvard University, where he spends a third of the year. But he enjoys his teaching and the company of fellow Nobel laureates who also teach there.

The award ceremony will take place in Stockholm in December.

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Heaney: news delayed

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Britain urged to apologise over Irish famine


Ahern: wants "an expression of regret" from Government

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE Northern Ireland "peace process" could be assisted by a formal British apology for the Irish famine 150 years ago, it was suggested yesterday.

In a further reminder of the smouldering resentments that underlie Anglo-Irish relations, Bertie Ahern, the opposition Fianna Fail leader, demanded "an expression of regret" to mark the anniversary commemorations of the ordeal, which could be said to have altered the course of not just Irish but world history.

In one of a series of statements by party chiefs in the Republic, Mr Ahern claimed that the famine marked the nadir of Anglo-Irish relations. "A certain unfavourable view of Ireland among economists, and a clique of very senior British officials with the support of Government, cut off effective help at a vital moment with the consequences we all know," he said.

In overpopulated Ireland in 1845 the blight which struck the potato crop was a catastrophe of unimaginable proportions. Potatoes, as vital to the lives of the largely peasant population as rice in Asia or maize in Africa, rotted in the ground and became a black, inedible pulp.

The blight struck again in the next two years, and uncounted numbers died of starvation and of diseases such as typhus. The only escape was by emigration to Britain itself, to the United States and to Australia and New Zealand, and the population fell from about 8.5 million to little more than 6.5 million in six years.

Although the British Government could not be blamed for a calamity of nature, it was widely accused of doing too little and too late by way of relief. Although food was shipped to Ireland by the Government and charities, the profitable export of grain and cattle was allowed to continue, benefiting wealthy farmers and landowners.

Emigration was to pave the way for the subsequent exodus which depopulated large areas of the country and created an Irish "diaspora". More ominously, the bitterness poisoned relations and engendered a new spirit of nationalism, the rise of Fenianism and a conviction that the British would always regard the Irish as second-class citizens.

Thus a century and a half of turbulence and distrust underlay Mr Ahern's statement yesterday. "I hope," he said, "that at some point the British Government at the highest level will make a considered statement on the famine, as part of what the Downing Street declaration describes as the most urgent and important issue relating to peace and reconciliation — to overcome the legacy of history and to heal the divisions.

"I think a frank acknowledgement and expression of regret from the highest level about the shortcomings of the then British Government's response to the famine would contribute to a better climate of relations," he said.

"I hope the British Government — and I do mean the Government, not the British ambassador or a junior member of the Royal Family or a churchman — will grasp the opportunity."

Case stories behind court ruling

How penniless pair became 'benefit tourists'

BY LIN JENKINS

ONE of the penniless immigrants *who lost his fight for* council housing yesterday says that he came to Britain hoping to start a business.

Gaudenzio Castelli, 35, a flower seller from Bergamo, Italy, told Westminster Council that he became involved in drug-taking after being frustrated by his failure to start a plastic recycling company.

After his £3,000 capital ran out, he lived off friends and charity from a church. His health deteriorated, he went into hospital several times and was given temporary accommodation by the council. When they refused further accommodation, he slept rough.

José Tristan-Garcia came to England from Almeria, Spain, in February 1993, and lived with an uncle in Walthamstow, east London, while working as an office cleaner and part-time barman. He went back to Spain, but re*turned and from February* 1994 he had no paid employment. He obtained income support, housing benefit, plus a disability allowance because of difficulties with walking.

The Home Office Immigration and Nationality Department wrote to both saying the Secretary of State was not satisfied that they were "lawfully resident" because they were not employed or "seeking work with a genuine chance".

In Mr Tristan-Garcia's case, the immigration authorities asked him to leave the country, but said no action would be taken to deport him. When Westminster Council learned of the decision, they decided they had no duty to rehouse the men.

The judge rejected claims that it was not the proper function of a local authority to decide the status of applicants for housing. He said the fact that Mr Tristan-Garcia had *succeeded in obtaining* work in August should not be allowed to "colour the facts". In April it had been reasonable to assume that he had no prospects of employment after more than 18 months without paid work.

"If EU law were to be so loosely interpreted that member states had to allow well over a year to other member state's nationals in poor health and with limited linguistic abilities to find non-specialist employment, the objective of securing the free movement of workers would in no true sense be promoted."

In Mr Castelli's case, there was "compelling" evidence that having failed to start a business within a reasonable time, he could claim no right of residence based on EU law.

"If he is not exercising a community right and he is homeless, should he be a burden upon the host state or should he head home? Surely, unless there is a compelling case to the contrary, he should head home." The judge also rejected claims that an EU directive entitled immigrants to come freely to the UK to take advantage of NHS services, *and that conferred a* right of residence.

The two men were ruled to be unlawfully resident under guidelines issued last year by Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary. The change, bringing Britain into line with the rest of Europe, was designed to halt benefit tourism. Since then, half the 18,000 EU citizens who sought residence have been rejected by the DSS.

Nick Partridge, chief executive of the Terrence Higgins Trust, which backed Mr Castelli's case, said: "It is disgraceful that a man with a life-threatening illness has been released from hospital only to face life on the street."

Immunity Legal Centre, a charity which provides HIV and Aids sufferers with free legal advice and which backed Mr Tristan-Garcia's case, said that the appeal case would be *heard as soon as possible.*

Mr Castelli, who is living in temporary council accommodation, declined to comment. Mr Tristan-Garcia, said by his legal representatives to be unwell, was unavailable for comment. Neither man was in court.

Howard told to rethink proposals

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL HOWARD has been told by cabinet colleagues to rethink his plans to fine employers who give jobs to illegal immigrants.

Amid worries among ministers that they risk damaging race relations and undermining efforts to lift burdens on business, the Home Secretary has been forced to carry out more detailed work on proposals to introduce criminal sanctions against employers.

The delay is a setback for Mr Howard, who could have included the proposed penalties in the crackdown on illegal immigration that he plans to unveil at next week's Conservative Party conference in Blackpool. Mr Howard will carry out widespread consultation with businesses and immigration welfare organisations before deciding *whether to press ahead.*

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, warned Mr Howard that the move could lead to employers discriminating against job applicants from an ethnic background. Other senior ministers have called for more detailed work on the likely effects for businesses and on the cost of taking offending employers to court.

Mr Howard attended a cabinet meeting yesterday to discuss themes for the party conference. Officials made clear after the meeting that Mr Howard would not use the conference to make specific announcements on employing illegal immigrants.

At present 1.1 million people from ethnic minorities are in work. Although the Home Office estimates there are 50,000 illegal immigrants each year, there are no reliable figures relating to the numbers in work.

Moves towards making employers responsible for ensuring their staff are entitled to employment would bring Britain into line with the US and *most of Europe. However the* British Chambers of the Commerce said the idea was unacceptable.

Harriet Harman, Labour's employment spokeswoman, said that the plan would create new problems for ethnic minority workers.

KEVIN COOMBS/REUTERS



Michael Connarty: fully equipped to spread the word for new Labour

Mischief at the conference

Continued from page 1

surely, rather private? We read on: "He will be trying out the Empathy Belly." Phew! An immaculate conception. Very Tony Blair. Very new Labour.

Kind fate had positioned the midwives' stand next to the DHL Express Delivery stand. Mo Mowlam turned up to *hold Mr Connarty's hand at* this difficult time. She giggled when someone called "who gets to do the epidural?" How about the morning sickness? I asked. "Bring back last year's pistachio stage set and we can all experience it," came a voice from the crowd. Connarty donned a big belly-pouch, several bean bags, two huge balls of lead and a large pair of breasts.

"Roy Hattersley could have done this without the equipment," he said. "It's Labour's answer to women-only shortlists." They strapped a sloshing plastic water bag *onto him. "New Labour, new* bladder."

"I hope it's a girl," he said. "I want my child to have a chance of being an MP."

The photographers led us out into the street. Connarty stood there in the rain, waggling his appertainences as an amazed taxi driver drew up. "Whatever turns 'em on," gasped his passenger, scuttling away in panic.

"It's totally degrading to women," a cross looking lady snapped.

"I think my waters are breaking," said an alarmed Mr Connarty, glancing down *at the leaking plastic.*

"It ain't unusual in Brighton, blokes dressing up as women," confided a passing police constable, "go down the Beachcomber Club tomorrow night. They're all at it. Even the bouncers. Don't quote me."

Lyell warns media over court coverage

Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney-General, warned the media yesterday that if they overstepped the line in pretrial publicity then editors would find themselves in court. Speaking after he ordered an inquiry into press coverage after a trial was halted because of "unlawful, misleading and scandalous reporting", Sir Nicholas made clear he intended to use the laws of contempt against the press.

"Editors need to be under no illusion that if they do publish material which is going to cause a substantial risk of serious prejudice to proceedings, then they are likely to find themselves in the divisional court." Sir Nicholas, whose job as the Government's chief law officer is to enforce the contempt laws, denied he was taking a tougher line than before or that he had "seduced" the press to push the boundaries of the law on what could be reported through failing to draw the line himself. "We have always taken a firm but fair line," he said. "One has to have a proper balance between two public interests: that in freedom of speech and that in a fair trial."

Power supply flickers

Britain came close to running out of electricity on the morning of July 19, the National Grid has admitted. An inquiry has been launched to find what went wrong. The Grid was forced to call on stand-by power stations and nearly had to cut the frequency and voltage of supply to make ends meet. The Grid says that generating companies failed to produce the power they had promised. National Power, Powergen and Nuclear Electric all denied blame.

Macedonia calls in Yard

Scotland Yard detectives have been sent to Macedonia to help investigate a car bomb attack on the country's president earlier this week. The four-man team is expected to stay for several weeks and bring back evidence for examination by the Yard's forensic science laboratories. President Kiro Gligorov, 78, received head injuries when a car parked outside a hotel in Skopje blew up as he was *driven past. He is seriously ill in hospital.*

Swans earn stripes

A railway bridge over the Thames at Staines, Surrey, is being painted with yellow stripes at the cost of £15,000 to stop short-sighted swans flying into it and falling on to the track. Steve Jones, a conservation officer at the Egham Swan Sanctuary, said the swans had difficulty seeing the top of the steel-girdered bridge against the grey waters of the river. Some of the birds have died and others have been treated for serious leg injuries.

Gassed children buried

The funeral was held yesterday of four children who were gassed to death in a car by their father. Jonathan Mitchell, nine, Cathryn, seven, and six-year-old twins Christopher and Jessica were buried together in one grave at St Helen's church in Northwich, Cheshire. Their bodies were found last Friday with that of their father, Phillip, 36, who had recently been divorced from their mother, Linda. Mr Mitchell's body will be cremated today in Altrincham.

Shy men shun doctors

Many men are too shy to seek doctors' advice about their health worries until it is too late, research published yesterday suggests. Embarrassment puts them at increased risk of death from testicular, prostate and penile cancers, the Health Education Authority said. Men were not interested in their health until the age of about 50, when they began to feel themselves slowing down, the study of 64 men aged from 16 to 75 found.

Woman driver cleared

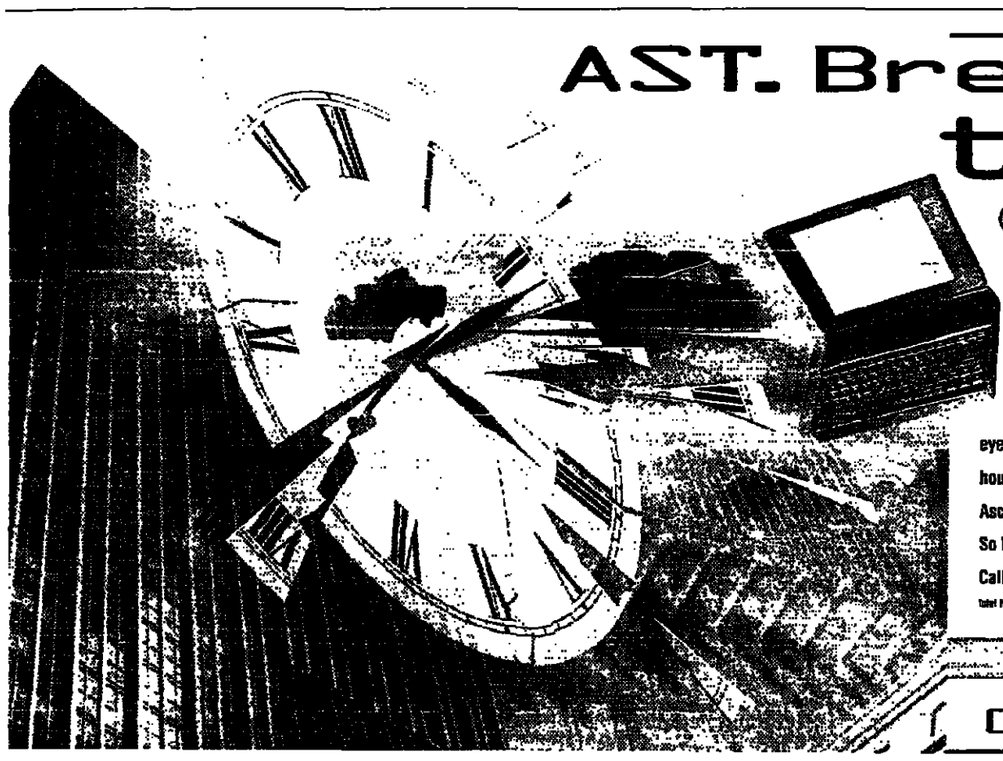
A woman who drove for more than three miles with a retired police superintendent clinging to the bonnet of her car was cleared of dangerous driving yesterday. The incident was the culmination of a ten-year dispute between Lorna Greinel, 41, and Michael Somerton, 57. Mrs Greinel, of Eversholt, Bedfordshire, told Luton Crown Court that Mr Somerton had flung himself onto her car and she had driven slowly while asking him to get off.

Sex shows for ITV

ITV has lined up a series of sexy shows for its new late-night schedule. *Carnal Knowledge*, a comedy quiz show, tests contestants' knowledge of sex while *God's Gift* is a 50-part dating game series. Dani Behr, who hosted Channel 4's *The Word*, will present *Hotel Babylon*, an entertainment and music show, and Katie Puckrick will host *Pyjama Party*, said to be "full of unfettered confessions, laughs and breasts". Margi Clarke presents *The Good Sex Guide Live*.

Cantona a man's man

Mancunian men would rather go on holiday with Eric Cantona, Manchester United's French soccer star, than with the models Cindy Crawford or Claudia Schiffer. The extent of the male fan's love affair with Cantona was revealed in research for the tour operator Unijet, which asked Manchester shoppers for their ideal holiday companion. Nearly 40 per cent of men plumped for Cantona, but women preferred the actor Mel Gibson.





هكذا من الاصل

Random action moves step closer

Police to give all accident drivers a breathalyser test

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BREATH tests will be given to every driver involved in an accident attended by police under tough new regulations introduced yesterday by Scotland Yard.

Drivers involved in the most minor collision could be tested, no matter the time of day. Even drivers who are the innocent party in an accident will be required to prove they are below the alcohol limit.

Police attend traffic accidents when there has been an injury, where the accident has been reported by a witness or where one party alleges there has been a breach of the law, such as dangerous driving.

Senior officers hope the extension of the test will prevent people from driving the morning after a heavy night's drinking, assuming they must be safe. The tests could also catch social drinkers who might have more than they realise over a lunch or a morning social event.

Twenty-five forces have adopted the policy, which the Yard has used before at Christmas. The Yard is taking fresh action after a sharp rise in positive tests in London this year, which could be linked to longer opening hours for public houses and bars. Other forces in the South East, including Thames Valley and Surrey, are expected to follow the decision of the Metropolitan Police.

The policy will take police closer to the power of "unfettered discretion", where police could use tests routinely without responding to an accident or signs of drink-driving. Chief constables want the new power but the Home Office and the Environment Department have told them they have not yet exhausted their current powers.

If the wider use of the test at accidents shows that there is a substantial group of drivers who persist in drinking and driving, the police case for further powers will be strengthened.

Yesterday Assistant Commissioner Paul Manning, responsible for traffic policy in London, said tests were already given to all drivers in accidents involving police vehicles and the new policy had been tested in southeast London.

He said tests that were positive had risen from 8 per cent in 1993 to 9 per cent last year and 15 per cent in the first half of this year. There were 10,134 positive tests in 1993 out of 141,989 offered; 12,586 out of 142,065 last year and 8,843 out of 58,562 this year.

Mr Manning said a sea-change had taken place among drivers generally. Nonetheless, a hard core of drink-drivers remained who had learnt to take precautions against being stopped by avoiding drawing attention to themselves.

The AA welcomed the move and said in a statement: "Some motorists drink and drive because they believe that the police will never catch them and now their chances of arrest are much higher." Andrew Howard, head of road safety for the AA, said: "As more tests take place, we will hopefully see a reduction in the number of drivers who persistently, and knowingly, break the law and endanger the lives of others."

The normal grounds for a breath test are either reasonable suspicion that a driver has alcohol in their blood, if a driver has been involved in a moving traffic offence or in an accident. Reasonable grounds for suspicion could be the way the car is being driven or if, when a car is stopped for another offence, the policeman then thinks the motorist has been drinking. He might smell alcohol or be suspicious because of the driver's manner.

Under the principle of "unfettered discretion" the police could simply pull over drivers without grounds for suspicion and test them. That would amount to random breath tests. In some countries they go further and set up road blocks or test a certain number of drivers passing a testing station.

The new breath-test policy is merely applying the powers police already have under existing law. John Spencer, of the Magistrates' Association road traffic committee and former editor of the standard textbook *Wilkinson's Road Traffic Offences*, said: "Constables have always had this power and they have, from time to time, announced they would use it in this way, such as during Christmas campaigns." Under section six (1) of the Road Traffic Act 1988, a uniformed constable can breath-test someone if he has reasonable cause to suspect that a person driving or attempting to drive has alcohol in his body. He can also order a breath test if he believes a person has committed a traffic offence.


MALCOLM GANDERTON

The remains of the van used by thieves trying to break into a fireworks factory in Kent. The explosion could be heard up to five miles away

Welding-torch gang blows up fireworks plant

BY JOHN YOUNG

BUNGLING burglars destroyed a fireworks factory yesterday when the welding equipment they were using to break into a storeroom triggered a huge explosion.

The blast was heard five miles away as an old concrete bunker — formerly used by the Ministry of Defence to store ammunition and made of 12in-thick concrete to withstand bombs during the Second World War — was reduced to rubble.

Police, who were checking the wreckage for bodies, believe the raiders set fire to their van by accident and it in turn ignited the fireworks. But they believe the thieves escaped from Skyhigh Pyrotechnics, based at a former airfield near Kingsdown, Kent.

The steel door which the burglars had tried to burn through lay near the chassis and wheels, which were all that remained of their van. The bonnet and roof of the vehicle lay 30ft away in a field, and the battery was found in two pieces almost 50ft away. The remains of the welding equipment also lay several feet from the bunker.

Rod McGregor, one of the owners of the company, said: "You can plan for every eventuality but the last thing you expect is anyone trying to attack an explosives factory with an oxyacetylene torch. You can never make anything explosion-proof but whoever tried this must have been a nutter."

The storeroom had contained up to 700 fireworks, including rockets and Roman candles. They were the kind used for large firework displays and were not on sale in shops. Mr McGregor estimated that the building would have contained about 60kg of gunpowder, but said: "The blaze would have started slowly so they would have realised what they had done and had plenty of time to get away. Obviously the explosion was very dramatic but once their van caught light they did a runner." He said that the blast had probably cost the firm £150,000 but, because of its timing only a month before Guy Fawkes night, the loss of trade could be higher still. "Basically this has decimated us," he said.

"This is not the time of year to start rebuilding a business which trades in fireworks. We still have to analyse what we have lost. We've got ten full-time staff and they have all had to be sent home today."

Judge says sex attacker should have sent flowers

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A SEX attacker could have avoided appearing in court if he had sent his victim a bunch of flowers, a judge said yesterday. David Vaughan, 45, a postal worker, admitted indecent assault but Judge David Griffiths told him: "If you had had the courage and good manners to say you were sorry and sent a bunch of flowers all would have been forgiven."

Vaughan went to a woman's home in the early hours of the morning in November last year, undressed her and committed an indecent assault. At the judge's request, the 44-year-old woman was taken to Winchester Crown Court by a police officer to be asked if she would accept compensation. She said: "I am not here for that. I never thought about it."

The judge said: "Well, I have thought for you and I think you should have £500 for the traumatic ordeal you have suffered. You could spend the money on a holiday but if you do not want it you could give it to charity. If you are keen on cats, you could give it to a cats' home."

He said: "Am I right that if the defendant had sent you a bunch of flowers and apologised all would have been forgiven and forgotten?" The shaking woman nodded her head. Robert Hill, for the defence, said Vaughan admitted petting and fondling the woman but had no intention of raping her.

His denial of attempted rape was accepted by the prosecution and a formal not guilty verdict was entered.

Vaughan, a divorcee of Basingstoke, Hampshire, was ordered to pay the woman £500 compensation and £950 prosecution costs. There was no other punishment. He had *no previous convictions*.

The judge's remarks were condemned by the Justice for Women campaign. Julie Bindel, a spokeswoman, said: "Judge Griffiths's remarks have trivialised a very serious matter and he should be made to retire immediately.

The last thing any victim of a sexual assault wants is a bunch of flowers from a man. She wants protection from him.

This case highlights the essential need for training for judges and magistrates.

"It shows how little progress has been made in the courts in dealing with cases of violence against women. Men who sexually assault women deserve prison sentences and this case sends out all the wrong messages."

Hitman in clown suit fires shot at patient

BY RICHARD DUCE

A HITMAN dressed as a clown bluffed his way on to a hospital ward and tried to murder one of the patients with a sawn-off shotgun hidden behind a bunch of flowers, police said yesterday.

The gunman, sporting false Dracula-style fangs, a clown's wig, red nose and blue polka-dot suit, shot his intended victim at close range after convincing staff he had come to cheer him up. The murder attempt failed only because *the 26-year-old victim turned* his back as the weapon went off and took the force of the blast in his shoulder. He is under armed guard after surgery to his wound, which is said not to be life-threatening.

Police are linking the attack on Wednesday night to an incident in August which led the victim to be in hospital. He was being treated in the burns unit at St Andrew's Hospital in Billericay, Essex, after being scarred with acid by two men who abducted him from a telephone box in Purfleet, bundled him into a car and dumped him six miles away in Dagenham.

The victim, who comes from Essex but has not been named, was offered protection, but refused to take it or to co-operate with the police.

Airline founder wins right to free first-class tickets

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE man who founded the airline that became Virgin Atlantic has won a High Court victory allowing him free first-class flights on the airline as often as he likes, with his family and two friends.

Randolph Fields, an American insurance lawyer who established the airline in 1983, a year before Richard Branson financed it, took Virgin Management to court, claiming that it had broken a contract worth an estimated £300,000 a year to give his family free first-class flights.

Mr Fields served a writ last month claiming that, by downgrading his flying privileges to economy, Virgin was causing him "damage and loss of reputation and esteem". Yesterday he was awarded summary judgment at the High Court, with damages to be assessed later.

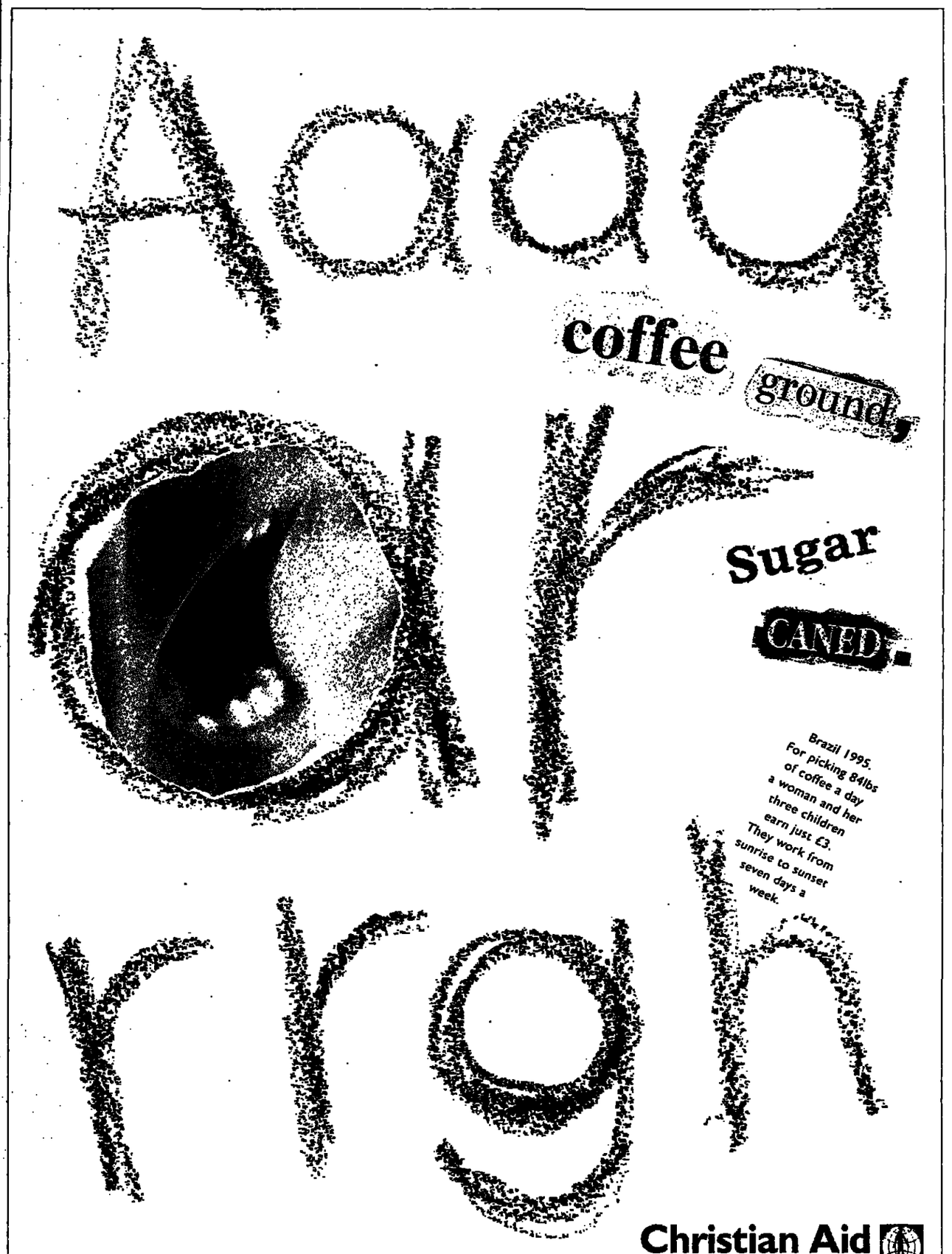
"I am obviously delighted," he said. "The judgment restores upper-class air seats for myself, my mother, my wife, my children and any two friends."

Mr Fields lives in Jersey and has homes in Scotland and California, but works in the United States and London, relying heavily on air travel. "In the last 18 months I have made approximately two round trips a month, or one flight a week," he said. "It is worth a great deal of money. I am very pleased now to be back with Virgin."

A spokesman for Virgin said last month that Mr Fields had made demands for money to which the airline did not believe he was entitled. The airline had been concerned with the extent of his flight requests.

Yesterday Mr Fields praised the swiftness of the judicial process that had brought him judgment within a matter of weeks. "Lord Woolf [who is conducting a review to speed up civil justice] would have been very pleased."

Andrew Granger, a litigation partner with the City law firm Taylor Joynson Garrett, who has been acting for Mr Fields for ten years, said: "Some of the points raised in this case may seem unusual but for an international businessmen like Mr Fields they can be very important for the effective conduct of his work."



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Pleasance: nothing like roles he played

Masterly Pleasance recalled as friend

BY DALYA ALBERGE

HAROLD PINTER, John Mortimer and Joanna Lumley were among writers and actors who yesterday attended the memorial service for Donald Pleasance, who died in February aged 75.

Pleasance, a mesmerising actor with famously unblinking eyes and a mastery of of understatement, was best known for playing villains and psychopaths from Dr Crippen to Blofeld. Yesterday's service was intended as a celebration of a man who was nothing like his villains: it ended with a Beatles song, *All You Need Is Love*.

Mr Mortimer was among those who reminisced about long-standing friendships. Mr Pinter said that Pleasance had given "one of the greatest performances of the 20th century" in his play, *The Caretaker*. That play, in which he played Davies the tramp, had launched Pleasance's career in 1960. He went on to make over 250 films, though he claimed to have lost count.

The service was held at the Comedy Theatre in central London, where Pleasance took his final bow on a British stage in 1991 in *The Caretaker*. One reviewer wrote of that performance: "It is impossible to take your eyes off him."

Linda, his widow, was there with Pleasance's five daughters from his four marriages, and his grandchildren. The service was staged by Sandra Lean, fourth wife of the late Sir David Lean.

Memorial service, page 22

Cosmopolitan life of Nobel prizewinner and successor to W.B. Yeats

Heaney, the Irishman without frontiers

BY DANIEL JOHNSON

SEAMUS HEANEY is the greatest Irish poet to learn his trade in Ulster, and he straddles the two traditions like no other. The award of the Nobel Prize for Literature yesterday makes him one of the most famous living Irishmen, and one of the richest.

These days Heaney is a cosmopolitan figure, dividing his time between his home in Dublin and Harvard University, where he holds the Boylston Professorship of Rhetoric and Oratory. In Massachusetts he joins other Nobel Laureates, including several poets — the West Indian Derek Walcott, the Russian Joseph Brodsky and the Pole Czeslaw Milosz.

Between 1989 and 1994, he was Professor of Poetry at Oxford, where his brilliant lectures (just published as *The Redress of Poetry*) and his warm, generous and convivial attitude towards undergraduates helped to make him the most successful incumbent.

Yesterday leading critics and poets were quick to pay tribute to Heaney, born into a Catholic family in Londonderry 56 years ago. Roy Foster, Professor of Irish History at Oxford and the official biographer of Yeats — the last Irish poet to win the Nobel Prize, in 1923 — sees Heaney as heir to the Anglo-Irish ambiguities of the past. "He occupies a place in Irish national life that no poet since Yeats has enjoyed."

Heaney's successor in the Oxford chair, James Fenton, recalled a reading in Oxford given by Heaney and Ted Hughes, the Poet Laureate, as "the most exciting I've ever been to — he has an extraordinary ability to inspire affection in his audience".

Heaney has declared his allegiances when British poets assimilate him to their tradition. In 1982 Andrew Motion and Blake Morrison put him in their *Penguin Anthology of British Poetry*. Heaney responded with an *Open Letter* in verse: "Be advised my passport's green./ No glass of ours was ever raised to toast the Queen."

However, Heaney's poetic roots are as much within the British tradition as the Irish. He was educated at St Columb's College, Londonderry, and Queen's University, Belfast, where he later lectured. When his name became prominent in 1966, it was in London with the leading poetry publisher Faber. His *Death of a Naturalist*, which reinterpreted rural life just as Ted Hughes and Thom Gunn had done, established him as their natural successor. He found advocates in Karl Miller of *The Listener* and Christopher Ricks in Cambridge.

His poetry took a more overtly Irish turn with his collection *North* (1975). In a lecture two years ago, he spoke of his sense of being out of place, even of "betrayal", at enjoying Oxford hospitality while a family friend lay dying in an IRA hunger strike.

But as a constitutional nationalist, he is far from rejecting "the British dimension — a given of our history and even of our geography, one of the places where we all live, willy-nilly. It's in the language. And it's where the mind of many in the republic lives also."

Libby Purves, page 19
Leading article, page 21

MARK ELLIDGE



Seamus Heaney, who declared in 1982: "Be advised my passport's green. No glass of ours was ever raised to toast the Queen"

MYCENAE LOOKOUT

This is one of Heaney's most recent poems. It was first published in *The Times Literary Supplement* in December 1994 and is reprinted with permission of Faber & Faber.

Cities of grass. Fort walls. The dumbstruck palace.
I'd come to with the night wind on my face,
Agog, alert again, but far, far less
Focused on victory than I should have been —
Still isolated in an old disdain
Of claques who always needed to be seen
And heard as the true Argives. Mouth athletes,
Quoting the oracle and quoting dates.
Petitioning, accusing, taking votes.
No element that should have carried weight
Out of the grievous distance would translate.
Our war stalled in the pre-articulate.
The little violets' heads bowed on their stems.
The pre-dawn gossamers, all dew and scrim
And star-lace, it was more through them
I felt the beating of the huge time-wound
We lived inside. My soul wept in my hand
When I would touch them, my whole being rained
Down on myself, I saw cities of grass,
Valleys of longing, tombs, a wind-swept brightness,
And far-off, in a hilly, ominous place,
Small crowds of people watching as a man
Jumped a fresh earth-wall and another ran
Amorously, it seemed, to strike him down.

PUBLISHED WORKS

Preoccupations: Selected Prose, 1968-1978 (1980)
The Government of the Tongue (1988)
The Cure at Troy (A version of Sophocles's *Philoctetes*) (1990)
The Redress of Poetry (Oxford Lectures) (1995)

Eleven Poems (1965)
Death of a Naturalist (1966); Somerset Maugham Award, 1967; Cholmondeley Award, 1968
Door into the Dark (1969)
Wintering Out (1972)
North (1975); W. H. Smith Award; Duff Cooper Prize
Field Work (1979)
Selected Poems, 1965-1975 (1980)
(ed) *The Rattle Bag* (with Ted Hughes) (1982)
Sweeney Astray (1984); revised edition as *Sweeney's Flight*, with photographs by Rachel Giese (1992)
Station Island (1984)
The Haw Lantern (1987); Whitbread Award, 1987
New Selected Poems, 1966-1987 (1990)
Seeing Things (1991)
(ed) *The May Anthology of Oxford and Cambridge Poetry* (1993)

Forthcoming:
The Spirit Level (May 1996)

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Resort in uproar as hotelier lures the homeless

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

A TINY Norfolk fishing port where Vaughan Williams and Churchill used to take the sea air is about to become home to 80 down-and-outs.

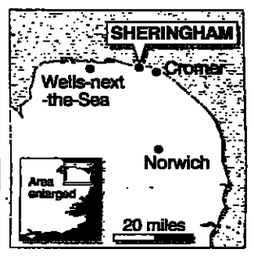
Mike McGuire, an Australian property developer, has advertised in *The Big Issue*, the newspaper for the homeless, for tenants to fill a Victorian seafront hotel he is buying in the resort of Sheringham and 42 people have responded. "Stay homeless in the city, or get a life," the advertisement says.

He even offers to fill in claim forms so the tenants can get housing benefit to pay most of their rent. However, there are too few job opportunities in Sheringham for the town's own youth, and with its reputation for long-living, the visitors could be on benefit for decades to come.

The proposal has scandalised the town. David Stebbens, council chairman, said: "Everyone has been very anti. We haven't got the social services and health facilities to cope with an influx of homeless people." Margaret Craske, a county councillor, said: "Bringing people to a quiet town from the cities will not solve their problems."

The Burlington Hotel, a splendid pile, has been empty for four years. It is being sold for £200,000. "It is regarded as a white elephant because the tourist market won't fill it any more," said Mr McGuire, 46. "It was no longer viable."

He said: "There have been some bigoted comments from people who attach a stigma to the homeless. I have been in England for five years and I find this head-in-the-sand mentality which some Poms have to be a pain in the neck."



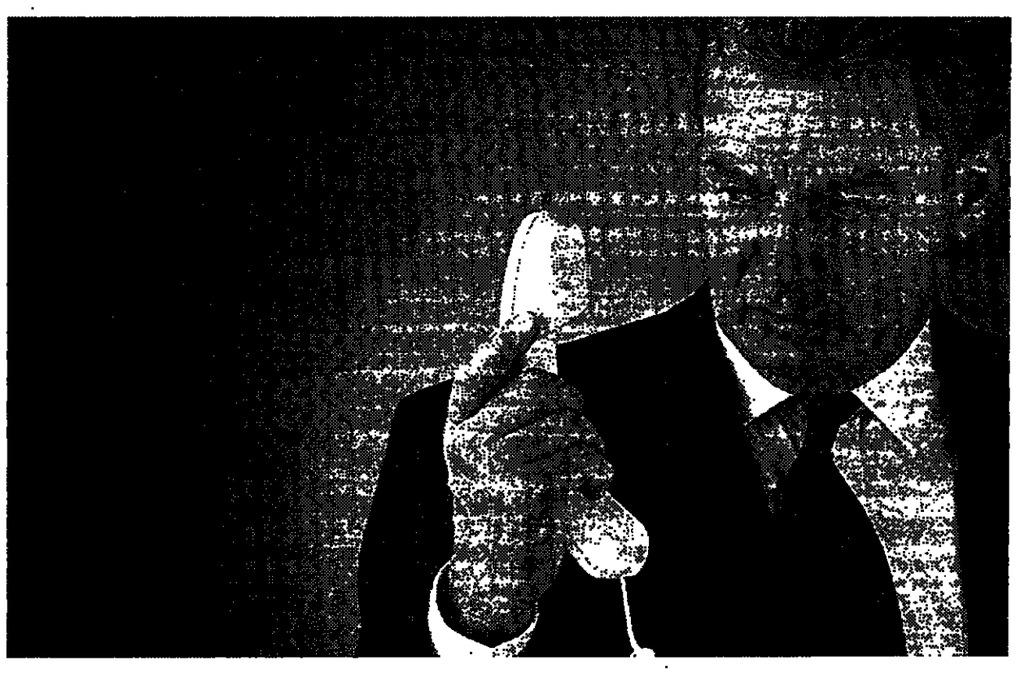
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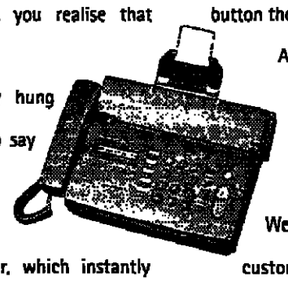
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INTELLIGENT THINKING

Lloyd's pipework is being corroded by rust

By Richard Duce

LLOYD'S is threatening legal action after discovering that rust is eating away the external pipework of its award-winning offices in the City of London.

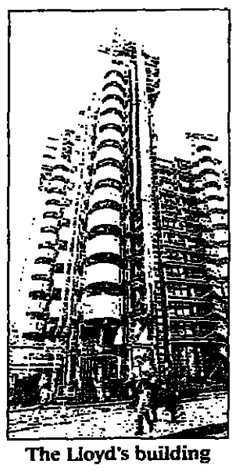
The litigation — possibly against the consultant engineers Ove Arup & Partners — would be an attempt to recoup the cost of repairs to the Lloyd's building, opened in 1986. The insurance company would not say how much the work would cost but one source said: "I'm afraid it is big money."

Severe corrosion has been discovered inside the service pipes which lie behind the building's distinctive stainless steel cladding and an emergency inspection is under way to determine the extent of the problem.

Legal action against the architect, Sir Richard Rogers, is unlikely as it is understood Lloyd's believes the problem is construction rather than design.

A spokeswoman for Ove Arup said yesterday: "It is unfortunate that Lloyd's have adopted an adversarial position. We know that there is a problem and that an investigation is being carried out."

The news was disclosed



The Lloyd's building

yesterday in the magazine *New Civil Engineer* which reported that Michael Davis, a construction lawyer with the firm Herbert Smith, had been retained to pursue the costs. Mr Davis said: "We will be carrying out a full review of all the parties who were involved in the 1986 building to see who could be remotely connected with this failure."

According to a statement by Lloyd's to the magazine, the corrosion has occurred to the pipework "inside the stainless cladding to the external riser pipes of the 1986 building.

"The problem results from the penetration of water under the vapour barrier designed to protect the pipework and ductwork and, in particular, corrosive failure is occurring around the joints in the pipework."

The exterior ductwork covers 30 per cent of the structure. Worst affected by rust are the hot-water pipes. They are being replaced.

Malfunction leaves British-built satellite stranded in space

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

A BRITISH-BUILT satellite is marooned in space after failing to separate from a Ukrainian space craft. The tiny satellite, bought by the Chilean air force, was designed to monitor the ozone layer over South America.

But FASat-Alpha is hurtling uselessly 650km above Earth latched on to its bigger Ukrainian partner and is unlikely to carry out its mission. Two explosive bolts, designed to separate the craft, have repeatedly failed to fire.

Dr Jeff Ward, technical director of Surrey Satellite Technology, which built the satellite, said the Ukrainian craft was working but theirs was switched off.

Unless some way can be found to separate them, FASat will continue in its frozen state because, unlike the Ukrainian craft, its power and electrical systems are only triggered once it is freed, Dr Ward said. "We are all a bit depressed. There is a lot of craftsmanship in building these satellites," he said.

The failure also delays Chile's plans to become a fledgeling space nation. The craft is Chile's first satellite, under a £4.5 million deal with the Guildford firm that has also included building a space command centre in Santiago and training air force engineers in space technology.

The satellite was launched from Plestek cosmodrome in Russia on August 31 by a Ukrainian booster. The British-built craft was a low-cost "piggy-back" passenger on a launch to put the far bigger Ukrainian Sich-1 satellite into space.

Both craft were deployed into orbit but remained attached when a command, sent from a ground station in Moscow, failed to trigger separation. The two satellites were attached by spring-loaded plates. The command should have triggered the explosion of two pyrotechnic holding bolts, allowing the spring to push the two craft apart.

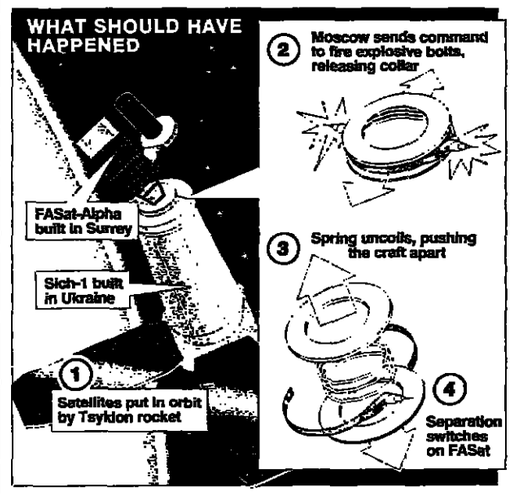
Dr Ward said that both his company and the Ukrainian authorities had launched an investigation into the malfunction. The Chileans, who had insured the craft in London, are set to place an order with Surrey for a replacement.

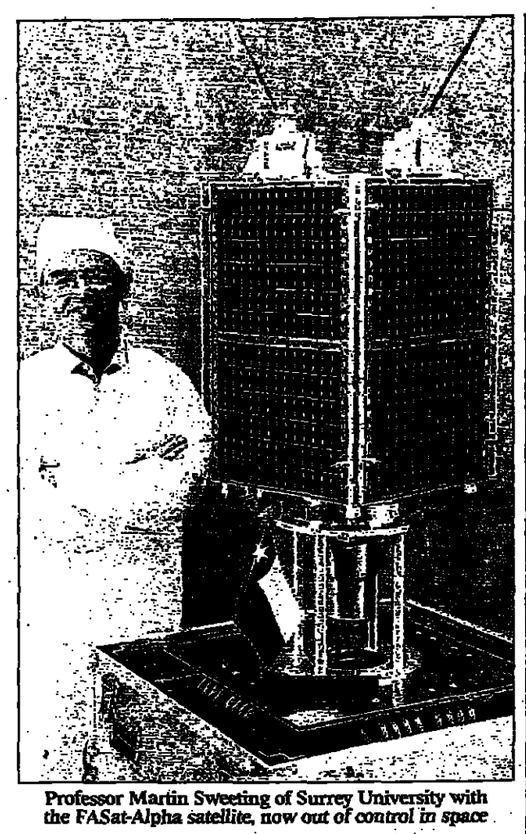
Piggy-back launches are becoming increasingly popular as more companies and nations clamour to launch satellites for telecommunications and earth observing. Surrey Satellite Technology, a spin-off from Surrey University, has pioneered the development of small satellites bristling with technology able to carry out sophisticated measurements at a fraction of the cost of bigger craft. But too many failures of the FASat sort may increase insurance costs, making small satellites and cheap launches less attractive.

Dr Ward said the company had seen nine of its micro-satellites launched this way without a separation failure. "Even if this was not our fault we need to avoid this kind of event," he said.

But Dr Ward added: "Space is a risky business and you cannot eliminate that by spending huge sums of money. We have seen this with the Hubble Space Telescope and the Mars Observer."

The hugely expensive Hubble was launched with a flawed mirror and Nasa recently lost the observer.





Professor Martin Sweeting of Surrey University with the FASat-Alpha satellite, now out of control in space

Synod to consider Austin's position

By A Staff Reporter

A POWER struggle in the Church of England could lead to one of its most outspoken members being ousted from the General Synod.

The Archdeacon of York, the Venerable George Austin, a well-known critic of the ordination of women priests, believes he is at the centre of a "vindictive" coup by two fellow archdeacons.

His position as a powerful and influential member of the General Synod is threatened because the Archdeacon of Cleveland, the Venerable Christopher Hawthorn, and the Archdeacon of the East Riding, the Venerable Hugh Buckingham, have refused to endorse his appointment.

Mr Austin said: "It's hard to understand what they have done. The Archdeacon of the East Riding said it was nothing personal, it was because I didn't represent their views or the views of the diocese. But Chris Hawthorn who wants to replace me agrees with all my views. That suggests that it's more personal than they want to admit."

Mr Hawthorn said: "I'm sorry if he feels it was vindictive but it certainly was not. We looked at who was most suitable to represent our views and none of us could agree. It's down to the Archbishop."

As the new Archbishop of York, Dr David Hope, has yet to be installed, the decision rests with the Bishop of Whitby.

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Horror of measles makes vaccination a wise choice



MEDICAL BRIEFING

THE *Encyclopaedia of Family Health* devotes fewer column inches to measles than to masturbation or medicine, Chinese. How medicine changes and improves. My generation of doctors was brought up to fear measles; we knew it was a potential killer because we had seen children die from it, and we treated many others who were left maimed.

Parents discussing measles today have not seen the damage its complications used to cause in the pre-antibiotic era. Nor is everybody aware that antibiotics do not protect the sufferer from the pneumonia which comes on early in the course of the disease, the encephalitis that starts in about one case in 1,500 two or three weeks later, or, in a very few cases, the fatal neurological complication, sub-acute sclerosing panencephalitis, which may attack a measles victim many years later.

The incubation period for measles is seven to 14 days after infection. The child initially becomes feverish, develops a sore throat, red eyes and a dry cough. About a week later the body is covered in a red rash. The child by now looks really ill, and is running a high temperature. Measles lowers resistance to bacterial infections, and the patient may become prey to bacterial pneumonia, infected ears and other problems.

The measles vaccine is made from a weakened live virus that causes an infection so mild that the patient usually does not notice. After last year's campaign by the Department of Health to vaccinate eight million children between five and 16, 1,198 notifications of ill health were received. These were not necessarily related to the vaccination. There were no deaths among the eight million children inoculated, and most of the reactions complained of were mild and self-limiting.

General Practitioner magazine reports that a handful of patients attributed such diverse troubles as the start of epilepsy, rheumatoid arthritis and post-viral fatigue syndrome to the vaccination. The Medical Control Agency, which garners reports of adverse reactions to drugs or inoculations, says the claims were investigated, but there was no direct evidence implicating vaccination.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

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LAND ROVER DISCOVERY TIM

Getty adopts the mongrel burglars left behind

Bullseye swaps a dog's life for playground of the rich

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

AN ABANDONED mongrel exchanged a career as a burglar's accomplice for a life of luxury yesterday as the pet of John Paul Getty II.

Disproving the adage that crime never pays, Bullseye, a year-old collie-cross, was taken from a shelter for stray animals in Newcastle upon Tyne to the billionaire's 3,000-acre Wormsley Park estate in Buckinghamshire. A green Land Rover Discovery driven by one of Mr Getty's chauffeurs collected Bullseye from the shelter early yesterday morning and took him south to join several other dogs owned by the philanthropist.

Bullseye made news after being "arrested" last week by police officers who found him keeping watch beneath the broken window of a burgled house in Cramlington, Northumberland. The burglars had fled but the police had the bright idea of releasing the black-and-white dog in the hope he would lead them to his master. Inspector Alan Tailford of Northumbria Police said: "Everybody laughed at first but the dog guided officers to a house on an estate. The occupant denied knowing the dog but was arrested in connection with a theft of jewels and is currently on bail pending further inquiries."

Bullseye's was taken to the Newcastle Dog and Cat Shelter and Animal Sanctuary, where staff nicknamed him after Bill Sykes's dog in *Oliver Twist*.

Joan Bennett, who runs the shelter, said: "He is absolutely delightful, very friendly and bright as a button. We had lots of calls from people who had read of his exploits and wanted to give him a home.

"One caller, a Mrs Getty, seemed just the ticket. She said she had a country home in Buckinghamshire and that Bullseye would spend most of his time there with other dogs. She had lost a dog earlier in the year that looked just like Bullseye and wanted to replace him."



Getty: one of many who offered the dog a home

It was only later that staff at the shelter realised which Mrs Getty they had been talking to. Her husband's reputation as a philanthropist is legendary — he is reputed to have given away £120 million in the past ten years — but Bullseye is the first homeless dog known to have benefited from his largesse.

"We faxed Mrs Getty a questionnaire and she faxed it back. Where it says 'what living accommodation do you occupy?' she just ticked 'house'. Sometimes if we're not satisfied with the information we get on the form we do a follow-up home visit, but we didn't really feel it would be necessary in this case," Miss Bennett added.

Earlier this year Mr Getty contributed £1 million of the £7.6 million needed to keep Canova's *The Three Graces* in Britain, thus preventing the sculpture from going to the Getty Museum in Malibu.

□ Tom Price, a potholing enthusiast, abseiled 90 feet into a disused mine shaft to rescue a Jack Russell terrier. The dog, the pet of Katie Miles, a teenager, had slipped down the shaft while chasing rabbits near Bow Street, Dyfed.

Leading article, page 21

MIKE SCOTT



Bullseye is collected from the Newcastle dog shelter by Mr Getty's chauffeur to be driven by Land Rover to the billionaire's 3,000-acre estate in Buckinghamshire

NEWS IN BRIEF

Death toll from brain disease increases

Deaths from Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, the human version of "mad cow" disease, reached their highest recorded level last year, according to the Department of Health. The total of 55 is significantly higher than the 42 deaths recorded in 1993 and just above the 51 reported in 1992.

The Health Department said that the increase was not significant and was probably the result of more intensive searching for cases. Levels of CJD in Britain are comparable with other countries.

Crash damages

Margaret Kelly, 54, of Edgware, north London, who was injured and lost three sisters in the Kegworth air disaster as they travelled to their father's death-bed, won £273,951 damages. The High Court was told she had endured acute suffering.

Speeding penalty

Charles Courtenay, the Earl of Devon's grandson, was given six penalty points and fined £260 by Okehampton magistrates after admitting speeding. Cambridge magistrates had banned him from driving for six months for other speeding offences.

Jail for stabbing

A 37-year-old man was jailed for 12 years at the Old Bailey for attempting to murder a police officer with a bread knife. Colin Crawford, of Woolwich, south London, had been jailed in 1987 for trying to stab three officers while resisting arrest.

Battle royal

Prince Edward was nominated to be honorary president of students at Stirling University. His challenger in the poll on October 18, Ben Goodwin, a student, 36, said: "This won't be the first time an Edward has been defeated at Stirling."

Toy money

Toys 'R' Us is expected to become the first toy retailer in Britain to issue its own credit card. Publicity for the card, launched through Visa, is forecast for the end of the month, though the firm has yet to announce the scheme officially.

Genuine fake

A Victorian imitation of the Penny Red was sold for £12,650 at auction at Christie's. In 1856 the Post Office was worried that fake stamps might flood the market, and asked an engraver to reproduce the design, to see how accurately it could be done.

War crime suspect, 84, to face committal

BY TIM JONES

DEFENCE lawyers representing the first alleged Nazi war criminal to be prosecuted in Britain are planning to fly witnesses from eastern Europe to speak on his behalf.

Szymon Serafinowicz, 84, who is charged under the War Crimes Act of 1991, made his second appearance at Epsom Magistrates' Court yesterday. He is accused of murdering four unknown Jews "in violation of the laws and customs of war, contrary to common law". The crimes relate to a period after the German invasion of Belorussia.

The magistrates agreed that Mr Serafinowicz should face committal proceedings in January, which are expected to last between six and eight weeks. A court has been reserved for the proceedings to be heard at Dorking before Peter Badge, the Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate. Defence lawyers have indicated that they will call at least 26 witnesses.

Mr Serafinowicz, of Banstead, Surrey, denies the charges. His bail was renewed on condition that he does not leave Britain, does not apply for a passport and continues to live at his present address.

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Changing tastes: a decent glass at the local, venison by post but a let-down in store

Wine hosts banish the grapes of wrath from Britain's pubs

By Leyla Linton

PUBS were praised yesterday for serving a decent glass of wine at last, after years of second-rate plonk.

Alisdair Aird, editor of the *Good Pub Guide*, launched the 1996 edition by celebrating a trend towards better-quality wine, caused by the facts that more pubs serve food and more women use pubs.

"When we started the guide in 1982, a dusty bottle with the cork left out, stored on an unpleasant looking shelf was the rule," he said. "There has been a tremendous improvement." The guide recommends 280 pubs that serve particularly good wine and has named The Cott at Dartington, Devon, as Wine Pub of the Year. The Cott serves ten types by the glass and has a further 41 on its list.

Mark Annear, bar manager at the Cott, said: "When customers are offered a choice of ten wines, the feedback is excellent. People always seem pleased and impressed."

Adnams Wine Merchants, part of Adnams Breweries which supplies 120 pubs in the east of England, said that its wine turnover had doubled in the past five years. Simon Loftus, the managing director, said: "Wine in pubs has a bad name because so many publicans can't be bothered. They choose the cheapest and serve it lukewarm in horrible glasses at outrageous prices. Then they say there's no demand for it. Pubs that serve good wine at sensible prices win loyal customers."

Jane MacQuitty, wine correspondent of *The Times*, said although some pubs were beginning to serve better wine, there were still problems. "Many pubs are still tied to the breweries, whose wine divisions produce dreary wine. Sometimes they are stored upright and kept under bright lights."

The Guide named the riverside Boat, at Ashleworth Quay, Gloucestershire, as Unspoilt Pub of the Year. The back parlour has red tiles, overstuffed chairs, a grandfather clock and dresser as well as shove-ha'penny, dominoes and cards. The pub has been in family hands since 1730.

Jacquie Nicholls, the landlady, said: "I've carried on what my aunts and grandfather and his uncle before that have done. We love the placeand try to keep it the same."

The *1996 Good Pub Guide* is published today by Vermilion at £13.99.



Best Pub: Queens Head, Troutbeck, Cumbria (above)
Licensees: Ian and Anne Barrett, Marquis of Lorne, Nettlecombe, Dorset
Own Brew Pub: Cavendish Arms, Cartmel, Cumbria
Beer Man: Graham Titcombe, Blackwood Arms, Littleworth Common, Bucks
Town Pub: Whitelocks, Leeds
Unspoilt Country Pub: The Boat, Ashleworth Quay, Glos
Family Pub: Wight Mouse, Chale, Isle of Wight
Dining Pub: Cholmondeley Arms, Bickley Moss, Cheshire
Fish Pub: Drewe Arms, Broadhembury, Devon
Vegetarian Pub: Drunken Duck, Hawkshead, Cumbria
Sandwich Pub: Three Acres, Shelley, West Yorkshire

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Pride of place: Jacquie Nicholls, landlady at the Boat, named yesterday as the Unspoilt Pub of the Year

Mail order delivers gourmet foods

VENISON, alligator meat, Japanese mushrooms and champagne chocolate truffles are just some of the foods being sent through the post after an upsurge in gourmet mail order.

The British are becoming increasingly discerning consumers and many long-established food companies have recently started postal deliveries to meet demand.

Benedict Hayes of Merchant Gourmet, which introduced the service last year, said: "Gourmet foods used to have a yuppie image, but people are being more adventurous and are looking for authentic flavours when they cook at home. Sometimes mail order is the only way to get them."

Williamson and Magor, a family firm which owns tea estates in Darjeeling, Assam, Kenya and Tanzania, has just launched a Tea Club to sell direct. Malcolm Ferris-Lay, sales manager and taster, said: "People are becoming more discerning but they cannot always buy the type they want. This will give the opportunity to do so."

Barrow Boar, based at Fosters Farm, near Yeovil, Somerset, has been selling French and Polish boar since 1984. Owners Nigel Dauncey and Christina Baskerville started a mail order service last year. It accounts for 10 per cent of sales. The company supplies exotic meats including kangaroo, crocodile, locusts and peacock. Deer Force 10, in Newton Abbot, sells venison by courier.

Gourmet foods can be sampled at the third International Festival of Fine Wine and Food, until Sunday at the Kensington Olympia, sponsored by *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* with *Decanter* magazine. Tickets cost £15 each or £25 for two on the door. Opening hours: today 11am-7pm; tomorrow 10.30am-3.30pm and 4.30pm-8.30pm; Sunday 11am-6pm. No admittance to under-18s.

Supermarkets accused of ignoring quality vintages to keep prices low

By Kathryn Knight

SUPERMARKETS have been accused of sacrificing decent vintages to fill their racks with cheaper, newer wine. An obsession with rigid pricing policies and a worldwide shortage of quality wine after poor harvests last year have led to a decline in good selections at most large chains, according to Harry Eyres, author of the *Which? Wine Guide 1996*.

Consumers, many of whose introduction to wine comes at the supermarket, have a limited choice as many stores concentrate on price points—around the £2.99 and £3.99 mark. "This can mean only one thing for the customer, sacrifice of quality to price. Why must wine, unlike most other foodstuffs, be tied to rigid pricepoints?" Mr Eyres said.

He laments the prevalence of younger and often cheaper, wines in supermarkets. "There is a virtual disappearance of mature wines from supermarkets," he said. "With their fixation on this new vintage, supermarkets are depriving us of the multi-dimensional experience that mature wine can provide."

The guide names the 200 best wine merchants in the UK and votes Noel Young Wines in Trumpington, Cambridgeshire, as best independent wine merchant. Mr Young, 26, whose store specialises in wines from off the beaten track and the New World, said that supermarkets often muscled out smaller retailers by deliberately making losses on some wine sales. "Aggressive pricing like this can devalue the true worth of the wine. It is a shame to bring people's perception of wine down by concentrating prices downwards," he said.

Waitrose was voted best supermarket for wines and singled out for praise as a store which concentrated on variety rather than pricing. The *Which? Wine Guide 1996* is published today, price £13.99.

Oysters a fine catch at fish counter

HIGH winds and bad weather are making it difficult to predict the price of fish, so shoppers are advised to be adaptable. Shellfish, however, is in plentiful supply this weekend.

Pacific (gigas) oysters are excellent value at 45p each while native oysters will cost from 80p for smaller sizes. Mussels are about £2.25 for a 2kg bag.

Announced best buys this week:

Asda: six Linda McCartney frozen sausages £1.09, sultana cake 69p, sage and onion stuffed chicken £1.74 a kg.

Budgens: St Ivel custard sauce 59p for 400g, carrots 25p a pound, six Harvest Bake mixed rolls 59p.

Co-op: Twinings lemon tea £1.59 for 30g, Macleans 100ml freshmint toothpaste pump £1.39, Cox's apples 49p a lb.

Harrods: salmon en croute £4.30 for 100g, smoked Scottish venison £2.20 for 100g.

Iceland: 680g smoked haddock fillets £2.99, six-portion raspberry pavlova £1.99, 9in San Marco Americano pizza £1.49.

Marks & Spencer: 600g frozen chunky cod in crumbs £3.49, four Williams pears £1.29, 100g asparagus £1.49.

Morrisons: 170g tuna chunks in brine 35p, 85g sage and onion stuffing 24p, celtic cabbage 35p each.

Safeway: loose white seeded grapes 45p a lb, skinned cod fillets £5.93 a kg, spartan apples 49p a lb.

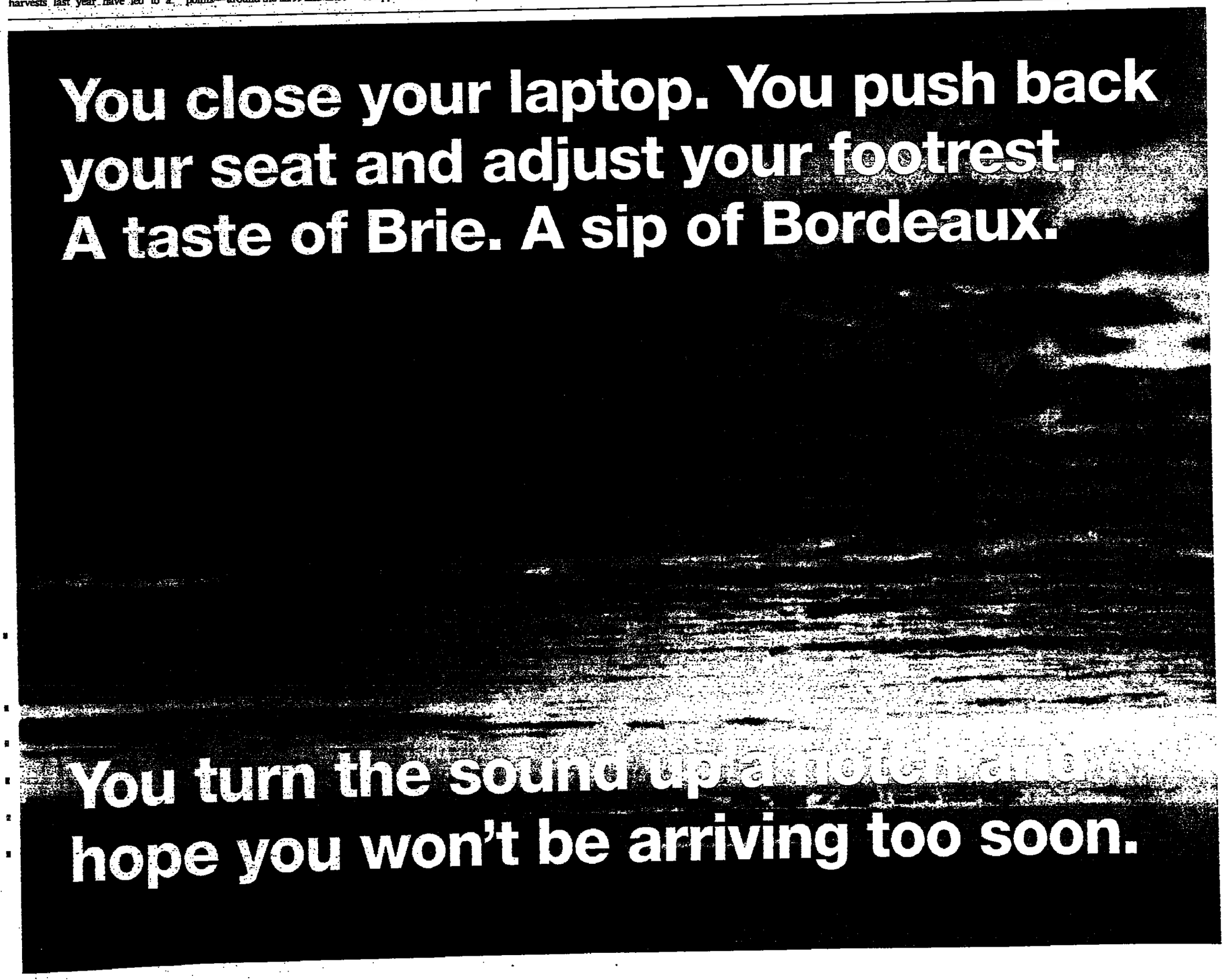
Sainsbury's: frozen New Zealand lamb leg £2.18 a kg, 454g Lincolnshire sausages 99p, 450g blackcurrant cheesecake £1.39.

Somerfield: 5kg pack potatoes £1.34, 1kg pack oranges 59p, 284g garlic kiev £1.49.

Tesco: pork loin £3.55 a kg, fresh smoked haddock, £2.49 a lb, courgettes, 55p a lb.

Waitrose: 450g turkey mince £1.49, 227g hayani dates 69p, satsumas £1.59 a kg, 4 x 150g low-fat yoghurt 89p.

WEEKEND SHOPPING



Pressure grows for allowing leader to choose his Cabinet


Wilson: highly regarded

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND JILL SHERMAN

LABOUR leaders are pressing for Tony Blair to be given the right to appoint a Cabinet of his choice rather than have one forced on him by the votes of the parliamentary party.

Senior members of the Shadow Cabinet are pressing for a relaxation, or even abolition, of the rule that requires Mr Blair to choose his first Cabinet from the 19 frontbenchers elected each year by Labour MPs. Although he would like more freedom to bring in MPs from outside the Shadow Cabinet, he has made clear that he has no plans yet to try to change the rules.

Brian Wilson, the highly regarded frontbench industry spokesman, and Clare Short, the spokesman on women's rights, are said by Labour insiders to be two such MPs whom Mr Blair would be keen to have in his first Cabinet. Alistair Darling, the party's City spokesman, and Tessa Jowell, a spokesman on health, have also greatly impressed him.

Some members of the Shadow Cabinet believe that Mr Blair's dominance is now so great that the parliamentary party would comply if he asked it to scrap the rule. But some modernisers fear that the move would be blocked by the Left and older MPs. They point out that those Shadow Cabinet members at greatest risk of being dropped would also oppose the plan. An idea that is gaining ground among senior party figures is for the elections to the Shadow Cabinet to be suspended next year. Instead Mr Blair would appoint the 19-strong Shadow Cabinet — in effect a Cabinet-in-waiting. Elections would be restored only when Labour returned to Opposition.

Mr Blair is expected to carry out a small reshuffle of the Shadow Cabinet after the elections next month. This year, for the first time, the Chief Whip will be appointed from the ranks of the Shadow Cabinet. There is growing speculation that Mr Blair will ask Donald Dewar, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, to do the job, which he regards as being of the utmost importance. Mr Dewar is in charge of Labour's review of the welfare state, one of the main policy priorities before the election. But Mr Blair is understood to regard him so highly, and the job of Chief Whip so important, that he may be prepared to move him. If so Harriet Harman, the employment spokesman, is regarded as the front-runner to succeed him in the social security brief.

Ms Harman, whose present portfolio will disappear after the Shadow Cabinet elections because of John Major's decision to merge the education and employment departments, has had a good year and was instrumental in defusing the controversy over the proposed national minimum wage in the run-up to the conference. She is an ally of Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, with whom she would have to work closely on the review, which could involve difficult decisions on universal benefits.

Insiders argue that the Labour leadership should now be trying to push MPs such as Mr Wilson and Ms Short for next month's elections. Traditionally Labour leaders have been reluctant to press for their favoured candidates. Allies of Mr Blair point out the need to counter a possible left-wing backlash against Ms Short over her robust defence of the national executive's decision to reject Liz Davies as a parliamentary candidate.


Jowell: impressed Blair

56 per cent back nuclear missile system

Blair victorious as party votes to keep Trident

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR secured his most surprising victory of the conference week yesterday when Labour delegates voted for the retention of the Trident submarine nuclear missile system.

In a decision that symbolised the way the party is changing under Mr Blair, the conference voted against unilateral disarmament, an issue on which it has almost always defeated the leadership. The move brings the Labour conference into line with the multilateralist policy on which Labour fought the last general election.

At recent conferences delegates have backed the scrapping of Trident, only for the leadership swiftly to make clear that it would not be bound by the vote. Delegates also decided against pressing their usual calls for defence spending to be cut to the level of the European average. It was the first time in recent memory that the leadership had not been embarrassed by the rank and file on defence.

Yesterday's majority vote of 56 per cent will make it easier for Labour to rebut the Tory charge that it is at heart a unilateralist party. Even so there were the usual passionate calls against Trident.

Gill Collins (Orpington) said that Britain's retention of the system violated the nuclear non-proliferation pact. "An incoming Labour government should honour this treaty and decommission Trident, as called for by delegates at our 1993 and 1994 conferences. I cannot help feeling that if the NEC and the



Shadow Cabinet had actively promoted that policy, the intensity of feeling against Trident would be much greater than it is."

She said a survey had found that 50 per cent of people in Britain thought nuclear weapons unnecessary. "The bad old days of the Labour defence bogey are going. The Tories are losing their ammunition. Trident is a massive, costly white elephant that should soon be with the dinosaurs."

But earlier, Lee Vasey (Darlington) had said: "The world remains a dangerous place, as Bosnia has shown us. We must ensure that our defence forces have the necessary resources and equipment. In this way we can continue to support UN and Nato in peacekeeping missions around the world. Old responses are no longer adequate. That's why I believe the motion calling for Trident to be scrapped to be misleading and inaccurate."

John Reid, a Labour defence spokesman, called the anti-Trident motion a "pious slogan". He condemned its aim as "opting out of the world disarmament process". He added: "I understand the sentiment. But it is wrong because it is one-sided disarmament."

Urging delegates to defeat the move, Dr Reid said the party had shown this week that it was ready to make tough choices because it preferred to be in power taking decisions rather than in opposition talking about decisions. He told them not to sideline Labour's chance of influencing world disarmament.

Mr Blair said later: "This is one more sign that the Labour Party is now a modern, left-of-centre party, totally in tune with the interests of the British people. This vote shows a new maturity in the party's attitude to defence."

Before the conference the media claimed the party would be "in revolt" against the leadership, he said. "But on issue after issue, we have seen the party united, sensible and determined to build the Britain we all want to create."

Labour's backing for Trident came as the party stepped up its pressure on France to scrap its nuclear testing programme in the South Pacific. Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, accused the French government of undermining moves towards a comprehensive international test ban treaty.

"Call off your tests now," he urged President Chirac. "You have no right to ignore the united protests of every nation of the South Pacific. Six years after the collapse of the Cold War, you have no need to test more nuclear weapons."

Cook looks at hiring business people as diplomats

BY JAMES LANDALE POLITICAL REPORTER

BUSINESSMEN could replace career diplomats as Britain's ambassadors abroad to help to give the Foreign Office a commercial edge and boost exports, Labour said yesterday.

In a move which could result in entrepreneurs such as Richard Branson, chairman of the Virgin group, becoming our man in Budapest, Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, said that Britain's embassies had much to learn from businessmen with practical experience in winning export orders.

Although the move will cause uproar in Britain's embassies across the world, the Foreign Office gave a cautious welcome to the idea and even hinted that it was already considering a similar project, making senior ambassadorial jobs available to outside bidders. "The idea is not so outrageous," a spokesman said.

He added that 30 per cent of Foreign Office staff abroad were working on export promotion. Many of them already had wide experience in industry.

Although Mr Cook refused to suggest which businessmen might be a good ambassador, he said Labour would want people with "experience, drive and flair".

Speaking at the party conference in Brighton, Mr Cook told delegates that Britain exported less to Eastern Europe than Germany. "That is why, as Foreign Secretary, I will want to find out whether there are people in British industry with experience and success in exports who might make suitable ambassadors to some countries with strategic markets," he said.



Later Mr Cook said that the Foreign Office had recently made "considerable progress" in pushing British exports abroad. "However, they tend not to have direct hands-on experience in obtaining exporter orders," he said. "It would be good and useful having someone at the top coming from an export background. It is important not just in embassies but across the foreign service."

He did not want businessmen looking for a cushy retirement. "I don't want people coming in at the end of their career," he said. "I want people who are at the top, with experience, drive and flair. There may well be something that they can teach the Foreign Office."

However, he said Labour did not want to turn upside down the whole Foreign Office career structure. There would only be a few "businessmen-ambassadors", they would be on temporary contracts, and they would be targeted at specific countries where they had experience.

The Confederation of British Industry was lukewarm. "We obviously believe that boosting trade should be a fundamental part of an ambassador's role," a spokesman said. "We are pleased with the steps that the Foreign Office has taken already to this regard." In a wide-ranging speech on foreign affairs, Mr Cook promised that Labour would introduce strict new rules on arms exports, especially to repressive regimes. "That is why the Labour Government will not licence the export of arms to any regime that will use them for internal oppression or external aggression," he said.

If Tory ministers had stuck by that principle, they would "not have found themselves in the dock before the Scott inquiry" into the arms-to-Iraq affair. The case provided a revealing example of "how it corrupts Britain's values to deal in secret with dictators who do not share those values", Mr Cook said.

Straw calls for tough action on young criminals

BY JILL SHERMAN POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JACK STRAW announced tough proposals yesterday to make young offenders do community work for their victims as part of a programme to create "a new civic society".

The Shadow Home Secretary told the Brighton conference that a Labour government would "nip young offending in the bud, providing swift intervention and effective punishment". Under a reparation order, the offender would be told to work for the victim, with their consent, or for the community for three months. A separate order would require offenders to undertake intensive education.

Mr Straw made no apology for his recent comments about "wimps and squeegee merchants" which had angered many leftwingers. He made clear that he blamed the Government for people sleeping on the streets, but argued that people had a right not to be threatened by the homeless. Poverty caused crime, but crime exacerbated poverty.

"Begging on the streets and sleeping rough in shop doorways is no way to have to live," he said. Everyone felt uncomfortable and guilty about poverty, "but walking by on the other side, averting one's eyes, hoping that someone else will


Straw: wants to build new civic society

solve the problem, is not good enough," Mr Straw said.

"It's this Government which is responsible for creating the conditions in which there is poverty amidst plenty," he added. "Labour will remove the causes of deprivation and despair. But in return, the community has the right to expect less threatening behaviour on the streets."

Conference organisers denied delegates any chance to express concern about Mr Straw's comments after an emergency motion criticising his remarks was not called.

In a robust defence of Labour's tougher approach to crime, Mr Straw said people had had to change the way they lived because of high crime rates. "Too many people are trapped at home, frightened to walk down the street at night and afraid of getting into an empty train carriage."

Echoing a theme used by Tony Blair in his speech on Tuesday he added: "Our challenge is to create a new civic society out of a nation whose fabric has been torn apart by fear, distrust and crime."

Labour would require councils to work with police to make their areas safe. It would free police officers from needless paperwork and put them back on the beat.

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On question of equality, Labour is much more 'old' than 'new'

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

A running theme of the Labour conference has been the often elusive distinction between "old" and "new" Labour. Personalities, election tactics and political positioning obviously play a part. But there are also deeper differences of ideology, over the meaning of equality. These have emerged during the week's rare passionate moments, notably during Monday's debate on social security and Wednesday morning's discussion of education.

The traditional case has been put most trenchantly by that veteran of the old Labour Right, Roy Hattersley. He believes equality is more than just equal opportunity. Democratic socialist writers from R.H. Tawney, through Anthony Crosland, Mr Hattersley and, most recently, Peter Hain, in *his Ayes to the Left*, have argued for a stronger definition of equality related to outcome. This obviously does not mean anything like mathematical equality of incomes, but it does imply equality of treatment and, above all, of resources, as Mr Hattersley argued in his 1987 book *Choose Freedom*. Mr Hain quotes the latter to argue that "socialism cannot defend the privileges of a few if the aspirations of the many for freedom and real opportunity of *outcome* (and not simply of *choice*) are to be achieved. It is not enough to have some theoretical 'choice': equality of resources is a prerequisite for choice to be exercised in practice."

Advocates of "new" Labour regard such an approach as unattainable and incompatible with equality of opportunity. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown have both argued that the priority should be to give everyone an equal chance. Their favourite theme is opportunity. This is criticised, by among others Mr Hattersley and Mr Hain, as being too weak, indeed of involving an acceptance of the new right's agenda. But defenders of "new" Labour disagree with the primacy of individualism or market principles and believe that the state has a vital role in ensuring true equality of opportunity in access to education, health and employment. Their emphasis is less on removing the advantages of some than targeting help on the disadvantaged.

This is not just a theoretical debate over interpretations of political philosphers like John Rawls. It has direct practical implications. The "old" Labour view involves a commitment not just to redistributive tax policies but also to universal welfare benefits and comprehensive schools. Mr Brown has reaffirmed his belief in a broadly progressive tax system, not least in eliminating tax loopholes and privileges enjoyed by the well-off. But international pressures mean that top tax rates in Britain cannot be much higher than those overseas. There are limits to the public's willingness to pay higher taxes.

Similarly, the current debate challenges the post-war Labour view of the welfare state. This has been seen primarily as a means of protecting the vulnerable, the old, the disabled and the sick, and as one of the weapons of redistribution. "New" Labour recognises the worries about a dependency culture and believes the social security system should be reoriented to help people into work. Mr Blair on Tuesday talked of giving single parents the chance of childcare and training so that they can earn a wage.

The sharpest clashes have been on education, not least because many Labour activists are teachers and governors. Comprehensive schools have long been seen as the key to greater equality, and it is argued that the Tories attempt to introduce more "choice" via grant-maintained schools is an illusion and inherently divisive. "New" Labour recognises the failures of many comprehensive schools and views arguments about structures as secondary to direct efforts to improve standards. It accepts diversity in the type and organisation of schools to permit parents more choice, though with no financial advantages for some schools over others.

Mr Blair has cemented his leadership this week and brushed aside his critics. But at this deeper level of the meaning of equality, the heart of the party still lies more with "old" than with "new" Labour.

PETER RIDDELL

PR referendum supported

THE leadership's plans to hold a referendum on electoral reform were given convincing support by delegates yesterday (Jill Sherman writes).

The decision will help Labour's relations with the Liberal Democrats without binding the party to changing the first-past-the-post system of electing MPs. After a short debate the conference rejected a motion that claimed that a referendum would endanger the party's prospects of holding power and would provide a platform for right-wing, facist and racist groups.

Alistair Watson, of Glasgow Pollock, said any system of proportional representation would lead to coalitions. "Why should we get into bed with the decaying corpse of liberalism," he said. "We should always remember that to depend on the Liberals is to dance with the devil."

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said he believed in the present system but John Smith, the late Labour leader, had promised in 1993 that the people would decide. "Tragically John died before he could redeem his promise. I ask you to ensure his pledge is reaffirmed today."

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Ministers urged to pre-empt Labour reform of Lords

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Government is considering reforming the House of Lords to pre-empt Labour's plans to abolish the right of hereditary peers to vote in the Upper House.

The Earl of Cranborne, the Leader of the House of Lords, has had informal discussions over the past year with more than one hundred Tory peers, both working and hereditary. Several alternatives have been suggested, including allowing hereditary peers to vote every five years for a proportion of their colleagues to represent them. Other peers have suggested allowing hereditary members to use the Lords as a club and be allowed to listen to debates but not speak or vote.

Some Labour and Liberal Democrat peers have also been discreetly sounded out for their views and backing.

Many of the 700 hereditary peers, who are mostly on the Tory benches, are becoming nervous about their future, believing that a Labour victory is likely. Most of the Tory front bench would be affected, including Lord Cranborne, whose title goes back to Elizabethan times and whose ancestors include three Prime Ministers.

Tory peers insist that the Labour policy is indefensible because it would leave the Upper House dependent on a Prime Minister's patronage. But they appear divided on whether introducing a measure of change would merely open the floodgates. Lord Selborne, a hereditary Tory peer, said: "Reform has been necessary since 1911 but it must not go off at half-cock with Labour. Any alternative must be as effective as the present system and not just be made up of political appointees."

Another Tory hereditary peer, who supports the idea of electing a core of hereditary peers, said, "hereditary peers haven't got a leg to stand on democratically, but the system works jolly well. We are much cheaper than either MPs or MEPs. We have the time to tinker with badly drafted bills, we bring a wide range of expertise into Parliament and we range [in age] from 25 to 95. But we are going to have to start fighting, or we will be scrapped before the electorate has woken up to the issue."

Many of the 400 working peers also want the Government to announce its own proposals. Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare said: "Labour has made clear this is going to be a priority. We must steal their thunder by carrying out our own reforms first and by being bold."

Lord Cranborne is a close friend of John Major; in the summer he helped to run his party leadership campaign and will have had the backing of the Prime Minister for the informal consultation.

The issue became more urgent this week when Tony Blair was loudly cheered for reiterating in his party conference speech a pledge to remove hereditary peers' right to vote and in the long-term to change the Upper House into an elected chamber.

Tory peers had been hoping that the Labour hierarchy was backing away from the idea because of its cost and the technical problems of getting the constitutional Bill through both Houses. But Labour whips are convinced that they can get the first part through within two years.

Liberal Democrat peers who are committed to a directly-elected second chamber are also concerned about Labour's plans. They want Paddy Ashdown to say whether he would support Labour's "messy half-measures" or stick to the party's all-or-nothing policy.

At the Liberal Democrat conference, Mr Ashdown joked that Labour was trying to make the Lords into the most powerful quango in the land: "I would rather rely on the serendipitous opinion of the illegitimate progeny of past kings' mistresses, than the appointees of a modern Prime Minister." But Liberal Democrat peers want to know whether, if a Labour Government is elected, they will be expected to back Labour's vote for the expulsion of many of their colleagues.

Crossbenchers are also concerned at Labour proposals. One, the Earl of Carnarvon, chaired a committee looking into reform earlier this year. He said: "Labour's proposals are ill-thought out and could lead to years of constitutional tinkering and uncertainty and a House that is more rational but less effective. If the country decides it wants to abolish the voting rights of hereditary peers, they should probably be replaced immediately by an elected second chamber."



Cranborne: has held informal discussions with more than 100 other Tory peers

Downing Street to put Major on the Internet

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR is to go on the Internet, allowing computer-literate voters to e-mail the Prime Minister with complaints, questions and comments.

Downing Street hopes to be on-line some time next year. A spokesman said yesterday: "We are very serious and we are looking at it at this moment."

The announcement came as the Government for the first time published an e-mail address for a Cabinet minister and as the Government's own centre for information systems, CCTA, won an industry award as "Internet User of the Year".

The Cabinet Office is bracing itself for a deluge of e-mail about government policy as Roger Freeman, the Public Service Minister, announced where he could contacted (*rfreeman@ccta.gov.uk*). Whitehall and the CCTA are exploring how swiftly other ministers can be made similarly accessible.

"This is a snowball that won't go away," said a Cabinet Office spokeswoman. "But we have to get the systems in place. It does not look good if we advertise a service saying e-mail a minister and then we have to reply on an old-fashioned piece of paper."

The CCTA is also negotiating with House of Commons authorities about a scheme to make every MP accessible to their constituents via the Internet.

Downing Street has been stung into action by the fact that the American public has been able to e-mail President Clinton at the White House for some time. It also hopes to upstage a claim from Labour yesterday that Tony Blair would be the first prime minister accessible to the electorate by e-mail.

A Labour spokeswoman said: "Tony already has an e-mail address and the intention is that he will have an e-mail address at 10 Downing Street when he moves in."

Labour also hopes that every government minister will be on the Internet.

The Government published e-mail addresses for Mr Freeman and his deputy John Horam, as well as for Ian Taylor, a junior Trade and Industry Minister as the Government Centre for Information Systems won the "Internet User of the Year" award from *Computing* magazine.

The service provides information via the Internet from 115 organisations and 60 government departments and agencies, including ministerial speeches and statistical data. Pictures of the Metropolitan Police Art and Antiques Squad's top ten stolen items of the month, minutes of the Chancellor's monthly meetings with the Governor of the Bank of England and Ofsted's inspection reports on schools are among the information that is electronically available.

☐ MORE than 5,000 "cyber delegates" have visited Labour's party conference via the Internet, it was disclosed yesterday (James Landale writes).

Graham Allen, Labour's Shadow Minister for the Media, said that 400,000 pages of information had been downloaded and more than 300 people had taken part in on-line debates. Labour claims its "virtual conference" in Brighton is the first of its kind, allowing people from across the globe to read speeches and take part in debates and questionaires.

"The number of visitors to Labour's virtual conference illustrates the benefit of allowing people to participate via the Internet," Mr Allen said. "This is only the beginning of building a genuine digital democracy in the UK which will transform the nature of politics. As Tony Blair's speech confirmed, New Labour is determined to maximise the potential of the Internet and the information superhighway."

Daily Mail group toys with idea of changing sides



English: thinks Blair is more fun at lunch

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S biggest Tory-supporting newspaper group is toying with the possibility of supporting Tony Blair at the general election, its chairman claimed yesterday.

The tantalising prospect that new Labour might be endorsed by *The Daily Mail*, *Mail on Sunday* and the *Evening Standard* was held out by Sir David English, chairman of Associated Newspapers, in an article from the Brighton conference.

He revealed details of a conversation with the group proprietor, Viscount Rothermere, after a recent two-hour chat with the Labour leader.

Sir David also wrote favourably of Mr Blair's performances during lunches at the group's headquarters. Comparing him with past leaders, Sir David said that it was not until Mr Blair took over that lunches with a Labour leader became fun again, "much more fun, incidentally, than when members of the current Government came gloomily to dine. In contrast Blair — whether he was alone or with his minders — radiated frankness and honesty."

Sir David's teasing intervention provoked amusement, cynicism and disbelief among Labour ranks at Brighton. Nobody thought there was the remotest chance that the *Mail* would line up behind Labour. However, party leaders did welcome the discomfort that the article was clearly intended to cause the Conservatives, who meet in Blackpool next week. "It is a tease, nothing more," said one senior Labour source. "They are trying to make the Government get its act together."

Sir David said in his article that the Mr Blair's Brighton speech had neither confirmed nor dispelled all the group's suspicions about Labour. "But equally we are not without scepticism towards the present Government. So we feel we must continue our dialogue with Tony Blair to the point where we can accurately reflect our opinion of him come the election: whether to attack him, remain neutral or even endorse him."

Musing aloud with Lord Rothermere, he had tried to visualise *Mail* editorials in support of Labour. "Could such a thing even be possible? I wondered. 'Well, it certainly would not be impossible, David,' he had replied."

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Decline of heavy industry blamed for danger lapping close to basements, tunnels and foundations

Water levels undermine safety of city buildings

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

WATER levels below some of Britain's cities are rising twice as fast as forecast, sharply increasing the risk of flooding and damage to buildings, tunnels and underground railway networks.

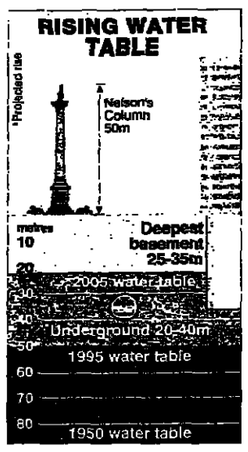
New research shows that the water table is climbing by more than two metres a year in parts of London, lapping close to Tube lines and some deep basements. Similar rises are reported in Liverpool, Birmingham, Glasgow and Nottingham.

Engineers say that scores of buildings, especially those built during the 1970s and 1980s, are at risk of flooding unless swift action is taken. Some may become so unstable they will need demolition, with fears that expanding clay means that some could virtually "pop out of the ground".

Rising water tables may also lead to chemicals and other pollutants being washed out of soils and into rivers in the North West and the Midlands. The blame for the rise is being put on the decline of heavy industry which once took billions of gallons a day from boreholes. Engineers say the problem is aggravated by leaky mains.

The water table in London is now about 50 metres below Trafalgar Square. In the 1950s it was about 90 metres below. If levels continue to rise by more than two metres a year, large areas of the capital and outlying areas could be affected within 15 years. Some deep basements are at depths of about 25 metres. Some car parks go down to 35 metres.

Dr Brian Simpson, of Ove Arup and Partners, who led research into the danger on behalf of the Construction Industry Research Association, said yesterday: "There are some places in the City where water levels are coming up by two to three metres a year." The previous estimate, in 1989, was one metre a year.



A North West Water official said that pumping from several boreholes on Merseyside had recently ceased with the closure of big factories. She said: "Others have switched to mains supply. We stopped using two in the centre of Liverpool plus others in west Lancashire mainly because the aquifers were contaminated and there are now higher standards to meet under the EC's drinking water directive."

Phil Green, a consulting engineer with Kirkpatrick and Partners, said yesterday: "A large amount of London's water once came from underground. Recently there has been a switch towards surface waters, especially the Thames. It is being taken out upstream and put into pipes. These leak into the ground." An estimated 15 per cent of water is lost from Thames Water mains.

The impact of the rising water tables is being monitored by the National Rivers Authority. A spokesman said that some buildings in Birmingham were already having to pump out basements, but it might be possible to tap the rising ground water to boost supplies from reservoirs and rivers.

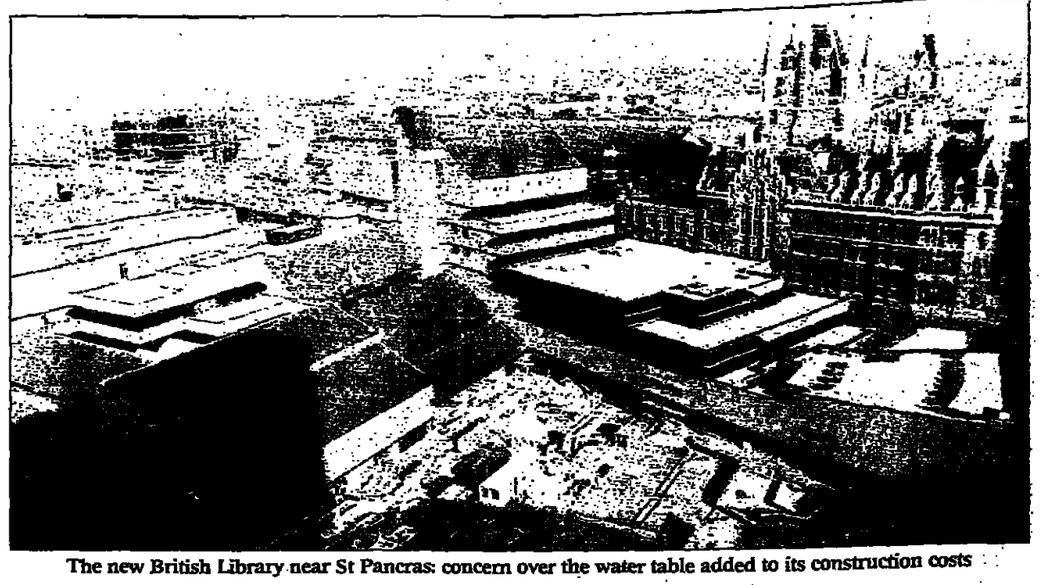
Neil Dancer, assistant director of transport at Birmingham City Council, said that BT was having to pump out telecommunications tunnels under the city. The city had identified danger areas, some of which are already affected and others at risk by the turn of the century. These include Kingstanding and Witton in the area around Spaghetti Junction.

"Water is backing up along a geological fault," said Mr Dancer. City planners were issuing advice to prospective developers.

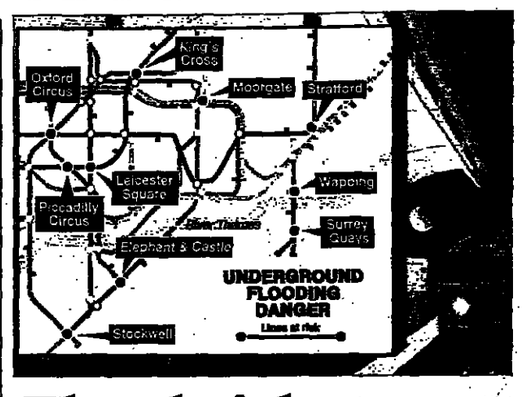
Thames Water has been investigating old bore holes in London, some of which date back to the Middle Ages. Names such as Clerkenwell and Bridewell echo the time of shallow boreholes when water was tapped from Thames gravels. Bigger holes were drilled through London clay in the 19th century. But new plans to tap water from underground have been dropped after a £1 million study. The water is too contaminated.

Concern over rising water is already adding to construction costs. The new British Library's basements, at 35 metres deep, have been built to withstand the threat. But scores of 1970s and 1980s buildings were not.

Dr Simpson said research indicated that London sank by up to 200mm because of the clay shrinking as water was taken. Now there was likely to be some rebound. He said: "Clay stretches vertically, so any feature that goes vertically, like an escalator, will tend to be stretched."



The new British Library near St Pancras: concern over the water table added to its construction costs



Flood risk grows for Tube services

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

COMMUTERS in Liverpool suffered massive disruption in the summer when flooding caused by the rising water table brought much of the Merseyrail underground system to a halt for a month.

The chaos in the city has served as warning to Tube passengers in London, where ancient pumping systems are struggling to cope with a steadily rising water table.

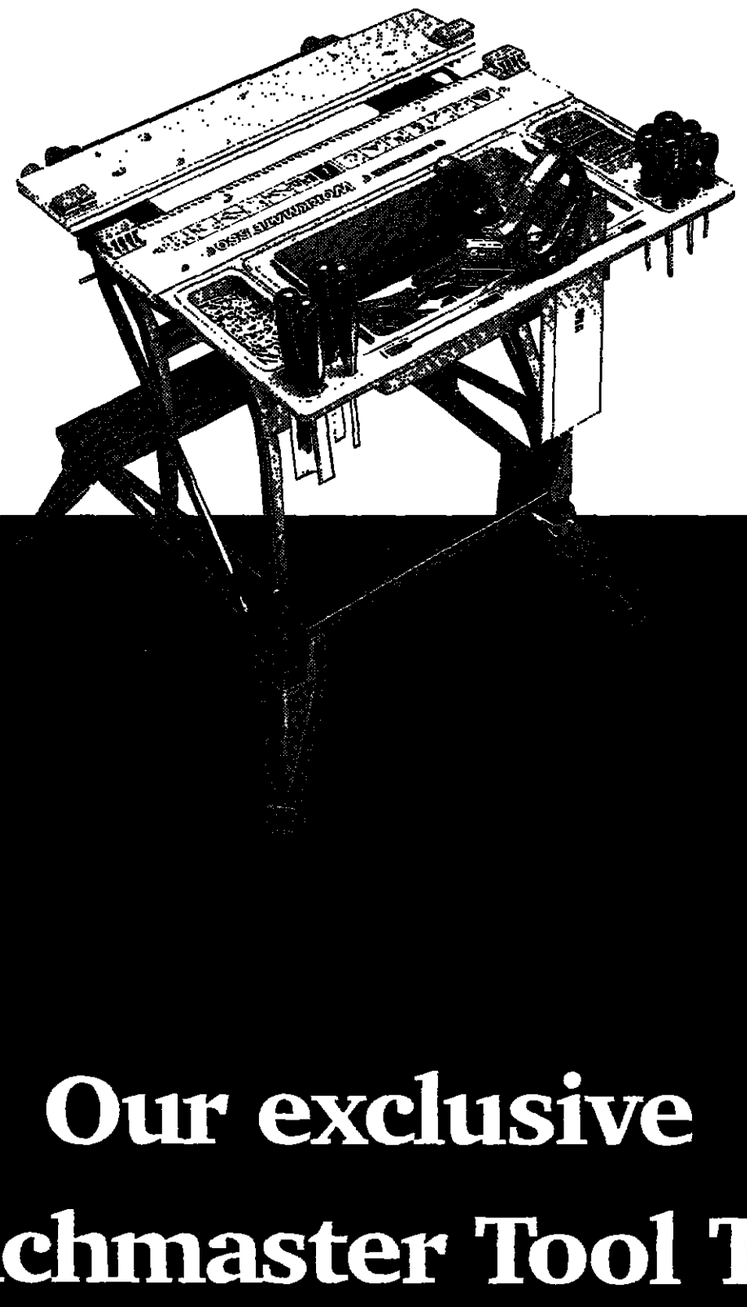
Merseyside's difficulties have been particularly severe because of the wholesale closure of factories that once sucked up water for industrial use.

Some 40 million litres of water a day are being pumped from Merseyrail's tunnels, compared with 3 million litres before the recessions of the 1980s. The breaking point came on July 12 when severe rain storms mixed a cocktail of salt and water that played havoc with the network's signalling systems. Later that month the entire "Loop Line" was closed for four weeks after inspections showed that the flooding had caused track to buckle.

Engineers on the London Underground fear that similar problems could force the closure of four of its deepest lines within three years. Cuts in government funding are being blamed for the postponement of emergency investment in equipment. Some of the pumps in use on the Underground date from the Victorian age.

An internal London Underground report in 1993 identified £18 million of investment needed simply to keep the network at an operational standard. However, only £9 million was made available that year and present spending on drainage is running at £5 million a year, a level regarded by London Underground chiefs as totally inadequate for tackling the flooding. The rise in the water table is estimated at more than 1.5m a year.

The sections most at risk are the Central line between Stratford and the West End, the Northern Line between Leicester Square and Moorgate and between Stockwell and the Elephant & Castle, the Piccadilly Line between Piccadilly Circus and King's Cross and the East London Line, currently closed, between Surrey Quays and Wapping.



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Rabin faces wrath of Knesset Right on West Bank pact

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

DEEP divisions in Israeli society provoked by the peace process with the Palestine Liberation Organisation were exposed last night as the 120-seat parliament conducted a heated debate on ratification of the Washington deal to extend Arab self-rule to 30 per cent of the occupied West Bank.

The argument came as Muammar Gaddafi, Libya's leader, urged other Arab nations to send Palestinians in their countries home to expose what he said was an Israeli plan to create a state for them in name only.

Facing defections from hardliners inside his Labour-led coalition, Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, declared the Knesset vote a motion of confidence. After last-minute, behind the scenes horse-trading, most Israeli commentators predicted that he would scrape home with a razor-thin majority of one or two. As the debate raged inside the Knesset, the main right-wing opposition Likud party and six other right-wing groups staged a march on the parliament after a protest rally at Zion Square in the centre of Jerusalem. Extra police were drafted in, but Sheva Weiss, the Knesset Speaker, barred water cannon and mounted police from entering the Knesset grounds.

The protesters, who arrived on buses from all over Israel, said they were demonstrating against "the undermining of national security and the abandonment of the heartland of Israel".

The vote, which was expected by the early hours of today, was described by Israeli officials as the most important since Mr Rabin ousted the last Likud government in June 1992 and began a period of trading land for peace with Jordan and the PLO.

Under Israeli law, the Prime Minister need not seek Knesset ratification for the 460-page Washington accord which will lead to Israeli troops pulling out of most of the seven main Palestinian towns in the West Bank. But Mr Rabin, anxious to maintain some semblance of national unity in advance of Israel's general election in October 1996, made it clear he would not implement the accord without it.

The tone of the bitter debate was set during his 45-minute opening speech, when right-wing deputies kept up a barrage of abuse. Mr Rabin, who has been depicted in recently printed posters as a traitor with Jewish blood on his hands, urged the 140,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank — which they refer to as Judaea and Samaria — not to wreck his peace efforts.

"We know the chances, we know the risks," he told parliament. "We will do our best to realise the chances and reduce the risks. We appeal from the bottom of our hearts to all citizens of the state of Israel, certainly those who live in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, like the Palestinians, to give peace a chance."

Meanwhile, Colonel Gaddafi was urging Arab countries to follow his example of sending home all Palestinians to expose Israel's plan to create a Palestinian state in name only. Speaking at a makeshift camp in the desert between the borders of Egypt and Libya, he told a crowd of thousands: "The Zionist plan is to create a Palestine without Palestinians ... Arab countries are taking part in this Zionist plan by allowing the Palestinians to stay in their land ... If we prevent the Palestinians from the right to return, then we are participating in the imperialist plan which calls for their settlement in Arab lands forever."

Egypt will let through only the few Palestinians who have permission to enter Jordan or the self-rule areas. It is to send an envoy to Libya after failing to halt the expulsions.



Muammar Gaddafi with thousands of expelled Palestinians at a camp between the Libyan and Egyptian borders yesterday

Unloved kangaroo to be put on Pill

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIAN scientists are hoping to put millions of kangaroos on the Pill to reduce their numbers.

Dr John Rodger, director of Australia's Co-operative Research Centre for Conservation and Management of Marsupials, says a contraceptive pill would enable farmers to control the population without resorting to guns, traps or poisons. Now up to three million of the 19 million kangaroos in Australia are shot every year in official culls.

Dr Rodger says the key to developing a kangaroo contraceptive is to manipulate genes involved in fertility to make the animals allergic to their own sperm and eggs — a method tried successfully on rabbits, foxes and house mice.

Despite a "national" image, grey kangaroos are regarded as pests because they eat grass meant for cattle and sheep and destroy farmland. Such is Australia's lack of love for the animal, many restaurants offer kangaroo on the menu.

Birds forced from southern marshes ravaged by Saddam

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

DISTURBING new evidence emerged yesterday of the environmental damage being done to the marshes of southern Iraq by the policies of President Saddam Hussein which are transforming the last big wetlands in the Middle East into a desert.

A British environmentalist disclosed that bird species indigenous to the 6,000-square-mile triangle at the conjunction of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers are abandoning habitats damaged by an Iraqi draining programme launched in the 1980s and are nesting for the first time in Kuwait.

Charles Pilcher told the English-language *Arab Times* that a number of species common to Iraq's marshes had set up home 100 miles to the south at the man-made Jahra Pool Reserve. "This shows the first sign of birds being forced into dispersal," he said.

In addition to the systematic draining of the marshes, Saddam is accused of having used chemical weapons and pesticides in the area to prevent it becoming a refuge for Shia rebels.

"For three years now we have had a small colony of purple swamp hen in Kuwait.



Purple swamp hen: signs of migration to Kuwait

This is a result of the marshes being drained," Mr Pilcher, a professor of pharmacology at Kuwait University, said.

Mr Pilcher, who last year co-ordinated a study by British zoologists of some affected birds, added: "We have had greatly increased numbers of Basra reed warbler."

The migration adds to evidence of the damage being done to the marshes provided by satellite and accounts from Marsh Arabs forced to flee. The Worldwide Fund for Nature says that since 1985 more than half of Iraq's marshes have disappeared.

Saddam's engineers have built canals to divert and drain the waterways. Baghdad maintains that the draining is part of an agricultural plan to increase production by drawing salt water off waterlogged land.

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Hurricane turns Florida Panhandle into wasteland of twisted debris

FROM TOM RHODES IN BAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

THE Florida Panhandle was like a wasteland. Twisted trees locked with bare power cables, cars lay abandoned, roofs and debris littered roads throughout Florida and Alabama yesterday after Hurricane Opal brought devastation to hundreds of thousands in America and left at least three dead in her wake.

In coastal areas, which bore the brunt of Opal's initial 144mph winds, cars floated down streets, boats were hurled onto each other and roofs ripped from their buildings. More than one million were without electricity, cities were facing a critical water shortage and telephone lines were crippled throughout northern Florida.

By yesterday morning, curfews had been imposed in several areas of the Gulf of Mexico region as more than 3,500 police and scores of disaster and relief workers took charge of a situation declared a national emergency by President Clinton.

For many of the more than 100,000 who had been evacuated from their homes along the Florida coastline, the news that the Federal Emergency Management Agency was in charge offered little comfort. Damage to the beach areas between Mary Esther and Panama City was estimated at "many, many millions".

Allen Brumfield, his mother and two nephews had left their mobile home in Panama City, the previous morning. By the time they reached Dothan, Alabama, after a 12-hour drive along clogged roads, all hotels were full. The family finally found beds at a Red Cross shelter. "Our home won't be there when we get back. It's going to be rough for us," said the factory worker. "They probably won't even let us go back for a week because so much needs clearing up down there."

Panama City was hit particularly hard when waves 12 ft higher than usual broke the end of its new fishing pier. Normally bustling with tourists, the sheltered seaside resort resembled a ghost town.

Those who did not leave early on Wednesday were forced to take whatever refuge that was available. Justice John Stroud and his family hid in a cupboard during the worst of the hurricane. "We put mattresses over our heads and waited for it to go away."

Opal struck east of Pensacola, cutting a swath across a 150-mile stretch of coast before careering northwards into Alabama, western Georgia, Tennessee and South Carolina, its advance marked by tornadoes, electrical storms and torrential rains.

A 76-year-old woman was battered to death by a twister that ripped her trailer in Okaloosa County. Two men were killed by falling trees in Georgia and South Carolina. At least 200 homes were smashed in Bay County, Florida, whose famous white beaches were left bedraggled.

Although the winds subsided to 70mph by 2am yesterday, driving through the eye of the storm was an eerie experience. A green tinge lit the road as the few cars and lorries about swerved past fallen trees, fences and twisted metal. By morning, Opal had been downgraded to a tropical storm and, travelling at 20mph, was expected to be over the Great Lakes by today.

The hurricane, which left ten dead in Mexico, had grown so fast in the Gulf that forecasters predicted it would be the worst to strike the United States since Camille killed 256 in 1969. Opal is the fifteenth named storm this year and the ninth to reach hurricane status. Only once since 1950, in the year of Camille, have the names reached letter O. The Florida Panhandle is peculiarly unfortunate, having experienced the fury of Hurricane Erin earlier this year.

Bickering defence team had doubts about guilt and sought to implicate friend

Lawyer reveals plea bargaining in Simpson case

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

ONE of O. J. Simpson's lawyers discussed a deal involving a guilty plea by Mr Simpson and a five-year jail sentence for one of his closest friends, according to F. Lee Bailey, himself a top Simpson defence attorney.

Pointing to grave doubts over Mr Simpson's innocence even in his inner circle, Mr Bailey alleged that Robert Shapiro negotiated with prosecutors for a plea bargain that would have required the American football star to plead guilty to manslaughter in the deaths of Nicole Brown, his former wife, and Ronald Goldman, her friend.

The deal would also have meant a prison term for Robert Kardashian. Mr Simpson's close friend and business partner, Mr Bailey said.

It was to Mr Kardashian that Mr Simpson entrusted a folding garment bag on his return from Chicago the day after the double murders. The bag's contents were never revealed, and Mr Kardashian later refused to testify in the trial on the grounds of attorney-client privilege.

"I sat there while [Mr Shapiro] tried to put together a manslaughter plea which would have gotten Kardashian a five-year sentence for something he never did," Mr Bailey told a Boston television station.

Throwing new light on a poisonous rift that nearly tore the defence team apart soon after the start of the trial in January, Mr Bailey went on: "Shapiro was paying no attention to the case, didn't understand it and was negotiating to try to get a plea of guilty. That was when we got him out." Mr Simpson was aware of the negotiations, Mr Bailey said, but "didn't want anyone to leave his team" and demanded that Mr Shapiro stay on.

A plea bargain specialist well-known in Hollywood, Mr Shapiro joined the case in June last year. Credited with assembling the all-star "dream team", Mr Shapiro was ousted as leader after his furious but unexplained row with Mr Bailey, his former friend.

The *National Enquirer*, a supermarket tabloid, reported before the trial that plea-bargain negotiations had been in progress but had stalled when prosecutors refused to consider a lighter sentence for Mr Simpson in return for pleading guilty to lesser charges. Mr Simpson was charged with two counts of first-degree murder.

The report was denied by Johnnie Cochran, who replaced Mr Shapiro as lead defence attorney and on Wednesday professed ignorance of any moves towards a plea bargain. "There have never been any such negotiations that I'm aware of," Mr Cochran said.

Asked if he thought Mr Simpson had been made to appear guilty by Mr Bailey's Boston interview, Mr Cochran said he was sure this had not been his colleague's intention since Mr Bailey had "always maintained the innocence of the client".

Even so, the claims by the legendary Boston lawyer have reopened the mystery of the designer garment bag, which appeared full when Mr Kardashian was videotaped carrying it away from the Simpson home. Prosecutors have maintained that it contained valuable evidence. When he handed it over to police months later, saying he had never looked inside it, it was empty.

The rift in the defence team has opened into a chasm since Tuesday's not-guilty verdict. Mr Shapiro, who is Jewish, said he was "deeply offended" by Mr Cochran's comparison of Detective Mark Fuhrman to Hitler in his closing argument, and has told ABC News he will never talk to Mr Bailey again. The feeling appears to be mutual. Mr Bailey recently called him a "sick little puppy" who was saved from embarrassment by Mr Cochran taking over the defence.

Another of Mr Simpson's ideas that was going nowhere, at least as far as the Los Angeles police were concerned, was his stated "primary goal in life" to do whatever it takes to find the killer or killers. "The case is closed," a police spokesman said. "This is not an unsolved crime." Demonstrators near Mr Simpson's house yesterday chanted: "O. J, we know you did it, you will never be free."



Bailey: called Shapiro a "sick little puppy"



Shapiro: vowed not to talk to Bailey again



Johnnie Cochran during the television interview with Larry King which produced a call from O.J. Simpson

Angry OJ calls TV phone-in

FROM IAN BRODIE IN LOS ANGELES

AN ANGRY O.J. Simpson, who refused to testify during his trial, used Larry King's call-in show to acknowledge that he was the "shadowy figure" seen by a limousine driver outside his home on the night his ex-wife and her friend were stabbed to death.

Speaking publicly about the case for the first time since a jury acquitted him of murder, Mr Simpson also attacked the prosecution and television analysts for distorting the testimony. "My basic anger is these misconceptions," he said, when asked if he was angry or relieved after winning his freedom.

Mr Simpson made his impulse call to the CNN programme while Johnnie Cochran, his chief defence lawyer, was a guest in the studio. But after a few minutes he dodged Mr King's questioning, saying "I gotta go, I really gotta go" — thinking, no doubt, of the pecuniary damage he could be inflicting on his plan for a pay-per-view television special. "Pretty soon, I'll have enough to say," he said.

During the brief interview, Mr Simpson disclosed that he had a "great" reunion with his children by his murdered wife — Sydney, 9, and Justin, 7 — whom he had not seen since his arrest.

Seeking to clear up one of many mysteries left unanswered by the trial, Mr Simpson said on the night of the murders he had walked about five yards from his front door to deposit his bags in readiness for being picked up by Allan Park, who testified that he saw the figure hurrying into the mansion. Mr Simpson did not explain why he failed to respond to Mr Park's repeated rings on the buzzer at the gate when he arrived to take Mr Simpson to the airport for a midnight flight to Chicago. The prosecution claimed that Mr Simpson did not answer because he had only just returned from murdering Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman.

Mr Simpson complained that Marcia Clark, the prosecutor, had said that Mr Park had seen the figure running across the drive, but that was not what Mr Park had said.

Mr Simpson said that he despaired of such distortions throughout his trial. Often he would watch television in his cell and would wonder if the legal analysts discussing his case had been in the same court.

Promoters acting for Mr Simpson were still trying against increasing odds to put together the pay-per-view proposal yesterday. There were reports that they were asking cable companies for a guarantee of $20 million (£12.8 million) for the interview.

But two of the largest cable networks, CNN and HBO, ruled out any participation and other companies were said to be wary of the idea on the ground of taste. There was also uncertainty whether Mr Simpson would have enough to say that would persuade millions of Americans to part with between $30 to $50 to tune in. "Will he say anything you can't predict?" asked an executive who has negotiated other pay-per-view deals.

In Los Angeles, political fallout from the acquittal is considerable. Newspapers are calling for a big shake-up in the way crimes are investigated. They are demanding an end to years of bungled work in the underfunded police laboratory and the coroner's department where flaws were witheringly exposed by Mr Simpson's lawyers.

The city's black leaders are complaining that the racist slurs of Mark Fuhrman, the investiating detective, were not an isolated case and that institutionalised racism needs to be rooted out of the police force, a proposal easier made than carried out.

Pope urges the UN to develop moral role

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE Pope urged the United Nations yesterday to remain true to its ideals as it celebrates its 50th anniversary and be the "moral centre" of a "family of nations".

Making the key speech of his visit to America, the Pope said the world organisation should take the "risk of peace".

"The United Nations organisation needs to rise more and more above the cold status of an administrative institution and to become a moral centre where all the nations of the world feel at home and develop a shared awareness of being," he said.

Lauding the "brave men and women" of Eastern Europe for the non-violent revolutions of 1989, the Polish pontiff issued a stirring defence of patriotism.

The Pope was expected to enter the abortion debate in America at a Mass in a New York stadium last night with a defence of the "right to life" of unborn children. He is due to leave the country on Sunday.

Rising black jail population fuels race debate

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE racial debate sparked by the O. J. Simpson verdict was fuelled yesterday by a report showing one-third of American black men in their twenties are in jail, on probation or on parole. Five years ago the figure was a quarter.

The report, based on Justice Department statistics, blamed the startling increase not on rising crime rates but on tougher law enforcement policies — particularly the "war on drugs" — that have disproportionately affected blacks.

It helps to explain why black and white Americans disagreed so starkly about Mr Simpson's acquittal. Whites were convinced he was guilty and considered incredible his lawyers' contention that he was framed by Los Angeles police. Blacks, including the nine on the jury, were far readier to accept that argument because most believe the criminal justice system is biased against them.

Blacks constitute 12 per cent of the US population, but the report showed 827,440 or 32.2 per cent of young black men were now under the supervision of the criminal justice system at a cost of $6 billion (£3.8 billion) a year. The comparable figure for Hispanics was 12.3 per cent and for whites, 6.7 per cent.

The report suggested the "war on drugs" since the 1980s had led to a disproportionate number of black arrests because it focused on inner cities, which have predominantly black populations. Blacks, in fact, represent 13 per cent of US drug users, but account for 35 per cent of arrests for drug offences, 55 per cent of convictions and 74 per cent of those jailed.

The report prompted urgent calls for action from black leaders. "If this were basically white youth in this dilemma we would assume something was wrong with the system, not something wrong with the children," said Jesse Jackson, the civil rights activist.

Lee Brown, the White House drug "czar" who is also black, said the report showed "you can't arrest your way out of the drug problem, you can't incarcerate your way out of the problem and you can't execute your way out of the problem. Until we stop the demand for drugs this crisis in America will remain."

Louis Farrakhan, the Nation of Islam group leader, is organising a "Million Man March" in Washington on Monday week to promote pride, personal responsibility and moral fortitude among black men. A *Washington Post* poll yesterday showed half America's blacks knew of the event, with 84 per cent of those supporting it.

The capital's biggest demonstration yet was when 600,000 protested in November 1969 against the Vietnam war.

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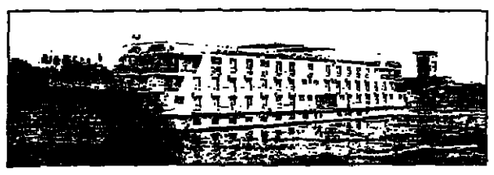
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Mrs Harriman sues lawyers over her dwindling millions

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PAMELA HARRIMAN, the American Ambassador to Paris and Winston Churchill's daughter-in-law, should re-read Charles Dickens' *Bleak House*. The case of Jarndyce versus Jarndyce in that novel lasted such an eternity that by the time it was settled the disputed inheritance had been entirely consumed by lawyers' fees.

Much the same could happen to what remains of the $100 million (£63 million) estate left by Mrs Harriman's late husband, Averell, after his death in 1986. Last January Mr Harriman's children and grandchildren filed a lawsuit accusing her of squandering as much as $41 million of that inheritance through disastrous investments. Yesterday it was revealed that Mrs Harriman is suing her own lawyers for failing to prevent the estate's ruinous mismanagement.

The British-born socialite has taken on Lloyd Cutler, the former White House counsel, to represent her. The lawyers she is suing include Clark Clifford, legal adviser to many Democratic presidents, and Paul Warnke, a valued member of the Johnson and Carter Administrations.

Even before Mrs Harriman launched this latest lawsuit she was running low on funds. Earlier this year she and her late husband's heirs were close to agreeing on a $20 million settlement. It fell apart when Mr Clifford refused to contribute $3 million, but not before she had sold paintings by Picasso, Renoir and Matisse for $17 million at Christie's and one of her two Georgetown homes for just under $1 million.

Mr Harriman's heirs allege that Mrs Harriman and her advisers made a series of ruinous investments and that she lent herself millions of dollars from trust funds supposed to benefit others. Her lawsuit alleges that the heirs and various trust funds would never have suffered the losses they did if Mr Clifford and Mr Warnke had shown "care, skill and diligence". The two lawyers have denied any wrongdoing.

Seoul 'was building A-bomb'

Seoul: South Korea was on the verge of producing nuclear weapons with French technology when President Park was assassinated in 1979, an opposition Democratic Party MP said here yesterday.

The weapons programme, which was to have been completed in 1981, was scrapped by a military junta which seized power in a coup after Park's death, in an attempt to win favour from the Democratic administration in Washington, Kang Chang-Sung said during a National Assembly inspection of the Agency of Defence Development (ADD).

"In September, 1978, President Park told me that ADD was developing nuclear weapons and 95 per cent of the programme was completed," Mr Kang, the former military intelligence commander, said. A Defence Ministry spokesman declined to comment. *(AFP)*

Peking's army gets new chief

Peking: General Fu Quanyou, 65, has been appointed Chief of General Staff for China's armed forces, replacing General Zhang Wannian, according to Xinhua news agency. General Zhang, 67, was promoted to be Vice-Chairman of the powerful Central Military Commission last week. Observers said General Fu's promotion, expected in the West, partly reflected an absence of binding links with any factions within the armed forces or Communist Party. *(AFP)*

23 face funding charges in Spain

Madrid: The public prosecutor investigating the illegal financing of the ruling Socialist Party has asked the Supreme Court to charge 23 people, including a senator, two bankers and a number of industrialists (Edward Owen writes). Antonio Salinas, the prosecutor, is seeking prison sentences and fines totalling £7.5 million. It is claimed that the Socialists illegally received donations of £5.4 million.

Amnesty official barred by China

Peking: Nicholas Howden, a senior Amnesty International official, was refused entry at Peking airport when he arrived to attend an anti-corruption conference (James Pringle writes). The gathering has already embarrassed China; the former local government official who was to have delivered the keynote address committed suicide after coming under investigation for economic crimes.

Kenya threat to Rwanda inquiry

Nairobi: President Moi has stunned the international tribunal investigating Rwanda's genocide by saying he will arrest any of its members who travel to Kenya in pursuit of Rwandans alleged to have planned or implemented the massacres. Human rights groups say some of the main suspects are living in Kenya. *(Reuter)*

Maradona plea to stay out of jail

Buenos Aires: Diego Maradona, who made his soccer comeback last weekend after a 15-month ban for drugs use, has asked the Supreme Court to be allowed to do community service to escape a four-year prison sentence for shooting at journalists outside his home with an air rifle. *(AFP)*

Trunk route

Kuala Lumpur: Two captured rampaging Malaysian elephants are to be returned to the wild fitted with battery-powered collars for their movements to be tracked by radio and satellite. *(AFP)*

Moscow accuses Chechen rebels of military build-up

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN ROSHNI-CHU, CHECHENIA, AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ABOUT 6,000 Chechen separatists are ready for battle equipped with tanks and armoured vehicles after regrouping while peace talks took place with Moscow, Pavel Grachev, Russia's Defence Minister, said yesterday.

He told the Interfax news agency that forces loyal to Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen leader, had "used the negotiations process to enlarge their forces with the aim of taking up military action again". He said the rebels had 12 tanks and ten armoured personnel carriers.

General Grachev is opposed to the continuing negotiations between Russia and a team from the Muslim Caucasus republic. He wants the rebels to be disarmed first.

The two sides signed a demilitarisation accord on July 30, providing for the rebels to disarm in return for the withdrawal of most of the Russian troops sent to crush the separatist government in December. But the pact never came into effect.

In Grozny, the Chechen capital, the Russians are struggling to patch together a political settlement that excludes the separatists. But it is a sign of their desperation that Ruslan Khasbulatov, former Speaker of the Russian parliament and once President Yeltsin's *bête noire*, is being touted as a peacemaker by Moscow.

The conflict with Moscow has left between 15,000 and 50,000 dead. But much of the south has now fallen back into the hands of the rebels and General Dudayev's government is still alive and doing business.

The fact becomes obvious in the country's low foothills, only an hour's drive from Grozny and within sight of the Russian guns. The Dudayev zone of influence begins at the village of Roshni-Chu, where the wooded hills of Chechenia start a slow climb to the ridge of the Caucasus.



Grachev: wants rebels to surrender their arms

It is an open secret that Roshni-Chu is a rebel base, visited frequently by the general and his government. The Russians, who have arrest warrants out for General Dudayev and his team, have posted soldiers just outside the village. But, possibly fearing a backlash from the population, they go no further.

One of the leaders is the Vice-President of the old Chechen government, Zelimkha Yandarbiev. Temporarily based in Roshni-Chu, he said that since the war began he had crossed the hills on foot six times.

"We have defended our idea, our freedom," said Mr Yandarbiev, a poet with a bushy black beard, in his farmhouse office. "That does not mean our territory is free today. No, a lot of our territory is occupied by Russian forces, but the people are still fighting."

Much of the rebel government structure is working. Two weeks ago in Roshni-Chu the general held a conference of the National Congress of the Chechen People, the movement that brought him to power in 1991. The rebels still have a television station, based in a wood, that broadcasts to the population. People set their watches an hour behind Moscow, as they did when General Dudayev was in power.

The Russians conceded they had to do business with the general when they signed the July military agreement. Mr Yandarbiev made it clear he thought it was only of tactical value.

"We should mainly regard it as a pause in the process of working out the relationship between two states, Russia and Chechenia," he said. He called the Russian leaders "international terrorists" and said their future should be settled by a war crimes tribunal.

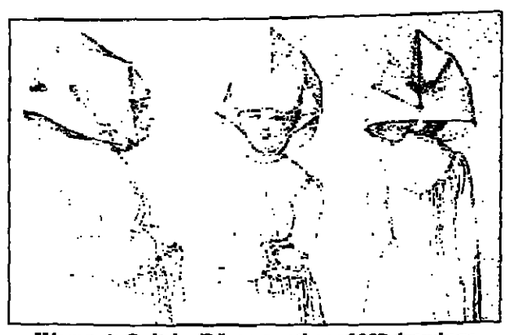
He also ruled out any co-operation with the Chechen politicians running a Moscow-installed government in Grozny. "There are some people who have not only steeped their hands in blood, but who have gorged their gullets with blood," he said.

The problem for the rebels appears to be that their political influence is not supported by enough military muscle.

Ruslan Gelayev, a Chechen commander, said he was too low on weapons and ammunition to start fighting again. Of the thousands of Chechens who fought against the Russians in December and January, probably only a few hundred are still full-time warriors.



Portrait of a Woman, by Holbein, which went on display in Moscow yesterday



Woman's Suit, by Dürer, another of 307 drawings

Russians unveil seized works of art after 50 years

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA has put on show a new batch of masterpieces half a century after they were seized by Soviet troops in occupied Germany.

Two of the most stunning drawings in the exhibition at Moscow's Pushkin Museum are *Portrait of a Woman* by Hans Holbein the Younger and *Woman's Suit* by Albrecht Dürer. The show, entitled "Five Centuries of European Drawing", features works by Rembrandt, Titian and Tintoretto. They form part of the prewar Dutch collection of Franz Koenigs, which for decades was feared destroyed in the war.

"For years we were reproached for not showing the 'trophy' art treasures," Irina Antonova, the museum's director, said. "Now at last we are showing them. These art works are not spread out among different collections and have not been sold."

As with other "trophy" war exhibits put on display earlier this year at the Pushkin Museum and the Hermitage in St Petersburg, the latest exhibition has sparked a fresh custody battle.

The Netherlands claims that the collection was bought under duress by the Germans during Nazi occupation of the country. The drawings were destined to become part of Hitler's personal collection, but were seized by a Soviet Army trophy unit in the ruins of Dresden on May 8, 1945.

Although The Netherlands and Germany have made claims to the collection, the issue is unlikely to be resolved before the Russian parliament votes a new law on the fate of thousands of pieces of trophy art.

Duma studies way to bar mafia bosses

BY RICHARD BEESTON

RUSSIAN deputies are considering removing their immunity from prosecution in a desperate attempt to avoid parliament becoming a haven for mafia bosses.

Members of the Duma, parliament's lower house, are drawing up legislation that would strip away one of their most cherished privileges, after it emerged that scores of criminals were planning to run for office in an attempt to avoid being prosecuted.

The move to lift their immunity before the December 17 polling date is being spearheaded by Stanislav Govorukhin, the Democratic Party leader. His fears were sparked after Anatoli Kulikov, the Interior Minister, announced this week that 85 candidates seeking election were suspected criminals, either facing charges or under investigation.

According to press reports, in one party alone four leading figures on the electoral list are either convicted criminals or being prosecuted for serious crimes. "There is a danger that the next Duma may resemble a congress of thieves," Mr Govorukhin said. He added that the real figure for candidates with criminal links was probably far higher.

Grigori Yavlinsky, the leader of the liberal Yabloko faction in parliament, said the candidates were not interested in politics, but wanted "a shelter" from the law.

The present parliament already has a chequered history. Two members were victims of gangland shootings, which suggested that they had links with the mafia. A third Duma member, accused of defrauding thousands of investors through a pyramid scheme, has admitted that he only campaigned for his seat to avoid going to prison.

Sergei Mavrodi, the head of the MMM investment company, said yesterday he was determined to get re-elected because otherwise "they would put me in jail". Under Russian law, only convicted criminals serving their sentences are barred from running for office.

However, experts said they were doubtful that parliamentarians, jealous of their powers, had the will to change the law.

Denard surrender brings Comoros coup to an end

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

COLONEL Robert Denard surrendered to French troops in the Comoros Islands yesterday, bringing to an end his short-lived coup and perhaps his colourful career as a mercenary.

On Wednesday, a week after Colonel Denard and his men seized power in the former French colony and ousted President Djohar, France sent in 600 troops in a short and efficient dawn raid.

For more than 24 hours a group of the rebels refused to lay down their arms. But yesterday morning Colonel Denard said he had agreed to capitulate in exchange for a commitment from the military authorities that his men would not be harmed. Like most other events in the life of Colonel Denard, 66, his surrender was a strange mixture of bravado, martial rhetoric and farce. "Today it's raining, and today the Comoreans are crying," he declared.

At first Colonel Denard insisted he did not plan to "abandon his comrades-in-arms ... We can still fight and we can die". But yesterday morning after meeting French officers he agreed to leave the military compound peacefully.

President Djohar, who had been held captive by the mercenaries since the coup, was also released and flown to the French island of Réunion for a medical check-up.

Colonel Denard now faces what may be the last act in a vivid, self-created drama spanning 30 years, back in France. A warrant for his arrest has been issued in connection with the assassination of President Abdallah of the Comoros in 1989, and a five-year suspended sentence awaits him in France for his role in an abortive 1977 coup attempt in Dahomey, now Benin.

The French Government has vowed to bring him to justice once and for all, but his trial may prove acutely embarrassing to the authorities who have publicly admitted backing many of his exploits.

UN will shrink Bosnia force by 9,000

BY JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AS President Clinton announced a ceasefire in Bosnia yesterday, the United Nations simultaneously announced plans to cut the 30,500-strong UN Protection Force in Bosnia by more than 9,000 men.

Apart from Britain, the cuts will affect troops from Canada, The Netherlands, Malaysia, Sweden, Spain, Turkey, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

André Ouellet, Canada's Foreign Minister, said yesterday that the Canadian battalion of 850 soldiers based at Visoko in central Bosnia, would not be replaced at the end of its current six-month tour of duty in November. He told the Canadian parliament: "The situation in Bosnia has changed a great deal over the past few weeks. The United Nations has concluded it will not be needing the same number of forces on the ground."

In Williamsburg, Virginia, the Nato defence ministers agreed that Russia should play a part in the peace implementation force for Bosnia, although Moscow has refused to operate under Nato command. William Perry, the American Defence Secretary, said there were other tasks the Russians could perform without being under Nato command.

American and Russian defence ministers are to meet in Geneva on Sunday to discuss the plans for a 60,000-man multinational force to replace the UN peacekeepers in Bosnia. One controversial issue discussed at yesterday's meeting was an American plan to train the Bosnian government forces so that they would be able to stand up to the Serbs if war broke out again.

US officials said only by enabling the Muslims to resist Serb aggression could a settlement be guaranteed to last after the withdrawal of the Nato-led peace force. Washington has said the force, likely to include 25,000 American servicemen, cannot stay longer than one year.

Despite hopes of an end to the fighting, UN officials reported yesterday that 100 Croatian army troops had gone back into Bosnia. There were fears they might be the vanguard of a larger force. Croatian regular troops had withdrawn after participating in the offensive against the Serbs in western Bosnia.

The ceasefire was agreed during a round of shuttle diplomacy in the Balkans by the American peace envoy, Richard Holbrooke. Officials said the ceasefire would last for 60 days or until a peace agreement is reached. The accord calls for an end to all offensive operations, sniper fire and the laying of mines. Full gas and electrical services are to be restored to Sarajevo, and UN peacekeepers are to open roads between major cities — apparently including the besieged Muslim enclave of Gorazde. The accord does not, however, satisfy the Bosnian Government's earlier demand for the demilitarisation of the Serb stronghold of Banja Luka.

Once the guns are silent, diplomats will resume their search for a settlement that establishes a single Bosnian parliament and presidency but divides the country 49-51 per cent between the Bosnian Serbs and the Muslim/Croat Federation.

☐ **Shot dead:** A British army patrol shot dead a Bosnian army soldier in Donji Vakuf in western Bosnia when the Muslim soldier pointed a gun at the head of a British serviceman on patrol in the town.

Cousteau battles son over Fiji beach resort's name



Oceanographer Jacques Cousteau, left, with his son, Jean-Michel

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

JACQUES COUSTEAU, the French oceanographer, is locked in a legal battle with his only surviving son over the use of their family name to promote a beach resort in Fiji.

Jean-Michel Cousteau has incurred his 85-year-old father's wrath by naming his environmentally-aware holiday spot on the idyllic South Seas island the "Cousteau Resort". The elder Cousteau has filed a suit alleging that by doing so his son, an environmentalist and film producer, has brought the Cousteau name into disrepute. M Cousteau Snr has demanded that the Cousteau name be removed from the resort's promotional literature unless the name "Jean-Michel" also appears on the logo.

In most respects the beach resort is precisely the sort of place the great marine scientist and ecological campaigner might have dreamed up himself, which may partly explain his resentment. Opened on April 22, the Cousteau Resort is a marine sanctuary in which jet skis, motor boats and even fishing are banned in the interests of preserving the environment.

Jacques Cousteau's opposition to the project is believed to stem from a feud with his son which erupted in 1991 when the younger Cousteau resigned from his post at the Cousteau Society and set up a film company.

A year later Jacques Cousteau told *Nouvel Economiste*: "My son is charming, but he is not capable — just because a kid is born out of your sperm does not mean he has the necessary qualities to replace you." Jean-Michel Cousteau, 57, has described his father's legal action as "sad and shocking", but says he plans to fight the suit when it comes to court in Fiji later this year.

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Nigeria shrugs off threat of Western sanctions

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN ABUJA

THE Nigerian military Government is prepared to run the risk of economic sanctions and suspension from the Commonwealth rather than grant further concessions on political detainees or its proposed transition to civilian rule, Walter Ofonagoro, the Information and Culture Minister, said yesterday.

He was responding to cautious criticism from Western governments directed at Nigeria's proposed plan to return to civilian rule by October 1, 1998, laid out by the country's military ruler, General Sani Abacha, this week.

The criticisms were that the three-year transition period is too long; and that the man widely believed to have won 1993's elections, Moshood Abiola, still languishes in jail. The commuting of death sentences on 13 people accused of plotting against the regime and a withdrawal of the ban on several publications have been seen as an attempt to deflect foreign criticism.

In a forthright interview with *The Times* at his palatial mansion in Abuja, Dr Ofonagoro condemned Britain and the United States for meddling in his country's internal affairs and mapped out his Government's hardline stance on a wide range of issues. He emphasised there was no prospect of the transition timetable being scaled down, and dismissed Western diplomats who have said no transitional arrangements would be acceptable without Chief Abiola's release.

Echoing General Abacha's standpoint, he said there were no political prisoners in Nigeria and Chief Abiola's case was judicial. The detained presidential claimant was motivated by "selfish interest" he said, producing court documents to back the government decision to annul the election.

He reiterated that Chief Abiola had "followed the path of lawlessness" by declaring himself President. "It is very dangerous to interfere with a country's judicial system in favour of a wealthy individual, and I am ashamed Western governments are doing this," said Dr Ofonagoro. "They are wasting their time, because we have no intention of voluntarily releasing him."

Dr Ofonagoro, 55, a businessman and former presidential candidate who professes to be a close friend of Chief Abiola, also quashed hopes for an early release of alleged coup plotters, saying his Government was not open to negotiation. Critics of the Abacha regime have accused it of dreaming up the plots in March to crack down on pro-democracy campaigners. The convictions of 40 people at a secret trial sparked worldwide condemnation.

Dismissing the claims as "rot", he said a film broadcast on state television had proved their guilt and underlined the Government's magnanimity. "We are not going to kill them but they will be punished harshly. We have been extremely generous. They are military people and know the consequences of treason."

The issue of political detainees and human rights has set Nigeria on a collision course with Western governments. Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, Britain's Overseas Minister, has warned Nigeria it risks being suspended from the Commonwealth unless there are significant improvements. General Abacha responded by warning two oil executives their interests were in jeopardy if Britain continued hostile.

Four years ago in Harare, the Commonwealth declared respect for human rights to be fundamental, and General Abacha can expect a frosty reception at the heads of government meeting in New Zealand next month.

"Who cares?" snorted Dr Ofonagoro contemptuously. "Britain has threatened to suspend us before, but they cannot throw us out." Nigeria, he said, did not want to fall out with international friends but they must recognise and try to understand its problems.

He said the Government would have its "hands full" during the three-year transition paving the way for elections at all levels of government and a rotating presidency, covering six zones in a country with 98 million people, 250 ethnic groups, 110 towns and 593 local government areas.

Nigeria was determined to stick to the Government's plan and would not be cowed by threats of economic sanctions. "What we need is sympathy, not pressure. If Western governments do not want to help us, we will help ourselves. We are taking a stand on the basis of what Nigerians want."



Ofonagoro: accused Britain and US of meddling

Sprinklers run dry as Mandela diverts water

Whites feel the pinch in Pretoria's new drought measures, writes ***Michael Hamlyn***

THREE years ago, in southern Africa's worst drought for decades, black subsistence farmers watched their crops wither and die, while in the all-white northern suburbs of Johannesburg the lawn sprinklers kept the gardens green. Black householders in the homelands queued for water to be delivered by lorry, or had to walk several miles each day in search of a still-functioning well.

Today the drought is back, and as anxious South Africans watch the sky for the onset of the summer rains, the gardens in the suburbs are slowly drying out. Watering is permitted only for two hours on three days a week, and lawn sprinklers are banned.

In a reflection of the difference in priorities between the old and new South African governments, the Department of Water Affairs can boast that since last year's democratic election 1.7 million people have been brought water to within 700ft of their homes. This should be extended to a further 3.4 million people soon.

In parts of the Northern Province, or in KwaZulu/-Natal, the drought is as bad, if not worse, than it was in 1992. The great Vaal Dam, which supplies most of the industrial and commercial heartland of the country is at its minimum level. However, the emphasis today is on bringing water to the blacks. Figures published this week show that only 20 per cent of black homes have an indoor tap, compared to almost 100 per cent of white and Indian homes.

New dams and river projects are being developed under the leadership of President Mandela's office, with the enthusiastic co-operation of the Water Ministry and Professor Kader Asmal, its Minister. Professor Asmal, said near Johannesburg last night that the Government had excelled in delivering tangible benefits like water to South Africa's newly enfranchised citizens.

"With funds so far allocated we have already started projects to address the needs of 25 per cent of those who now lack clean water," he said. "Within three years all those projects will have been completed and new ones started to address the rural backlog."

However, as the rivers run more and more slowly, whites have been told that they must cut down on the use of water, and quotas have been given to each household, based on a percentage reduction of last year's use. The penalties for using more than the quota is to be reflected in higher tariffs for the excess. The new tariffs will be shown in this month's bills, and a series of severe shocks is expected.

So far the water authorities have relied on exhortation and warnings to try to cut consumption. They aim to reduce the use of water by 20 per cent, but have managed only between 12 and 15 per cent.

"If we do not achieve this objective, we shall have to impose much tougher restrictions, rationing or stiff financial penalties," Paul Roberts, a senior civil servant in charge of development, said. "We may have to resort to reducing the flow in the pipes."

There is much discussion about making South Africans pay much more for their water than they have in the past. Prices have been based on the historic costs of bringing water to the home, but there are government groups trying to establish a true economic value of a commodity in generally short supply.

"The cost of water has not been a major factor in a household budget," Dr Roberts said. "But we are now drawing up a revised water tariff. Inevitably water is going to cost more in the future."



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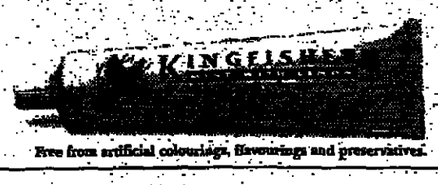
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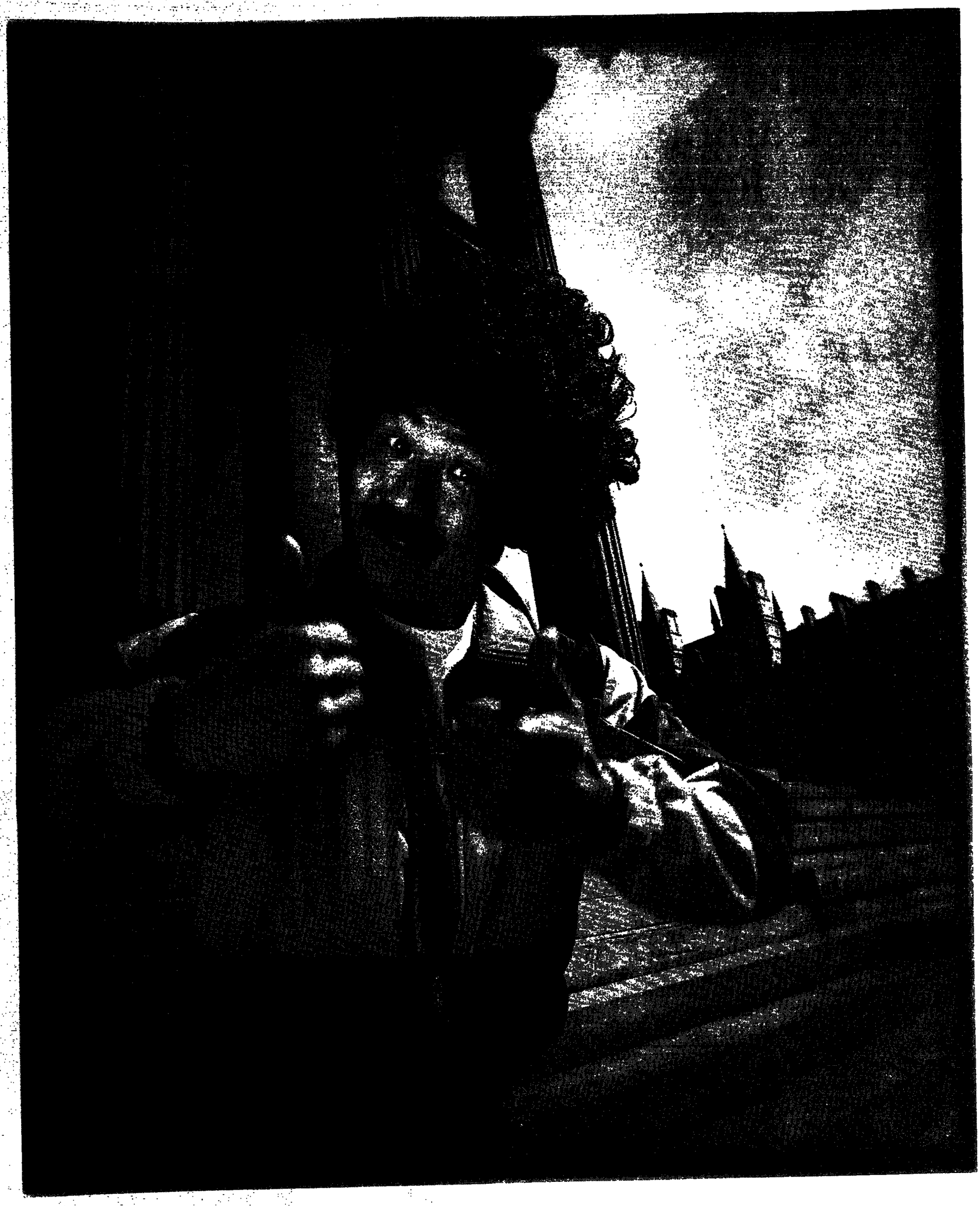
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The new head of the Tory think-tank did not go to school until she was 12, but watch out Tony Blair

'I am not a saintly Catholic but God loves sinners — so I think it's worth a try'

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



When Tessa Keswick goes to Blackpool, she will have been one week in her new job as director of the Centre for Policy Studies, the Tory think-tank. So she has a tough act to follow. I refer not to her predecessor, Gerald Frost, of whom nobody heard much, but to the fact that Tony Blair had, at Brighton, so dramatically swept the ground from under Tory thinkers' feet.

"It was obvious Tony Blair was going to do this," Mrs Keswick says. Six months ago, she had warned her then boss, Kenneth Clarke, about it. "I kept saying to Ken, it's just a matter of time before he talks about lowering taxes, it's just a matter of time before he takes over the law-and-order issue."

When Mrs Keswick was appointed to the Centre by Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach, the consensus was that a non-graduate was a surprising choice for a cerebral think-tank founded by Margaret Thatcher and Keith Joseph. Lord Griffiths hymns her ability and industry. But she can bring more than that. Any organisation can depend on a smart woman, who has visibility and curiosity value, to raise its profile. Even better, a woman with energy, wealth and charm is free to voice her indignation and shake up a fading regime. Like George Walden and his fellow MPs deserting the sinking ship, she can be a thorn in Tory flesh while declaring: "I have never had any doubts about being a Conservative."

Her new office is a tall, noisy house in Horseferry Road, Westminster, where Mrs Keswick's voice, gentle and low, is drowned by traffic, police sirens and banging doors.

The paper she has prepared for me squarely faces the Centre's challenge: after 16 years in power, many Tory arguments have passed into mainstream currency. "Tory ideas of the 1980s have influenced centre-right parties the world over — a fact that has not escaped the attention of the vigilant Mr Blair ... Some policies have been implemented badly, so they suffer from a 'You have had your chance' charge," she writes.

So what can the think-tank now suggest the Tories do to "make the quality of people's lives better more quickly"? "We can remind the Government that there are sensible Conservative policies to be picked up if they grasp the nettle," she says.

She grew up one of the five children of brave Lord Lovat, at idyllic Beaufort Castle in the Highlands, with horses and country pursuits, wearing the kilt. She did not go to school until she was 12: a culture shock 600 miles away at the Sacred Heart convent at Woldingham, Surrey. There she swanned through French O level at 13, A level at 15 (her governess had been French) and insisted, a spirited girl, on leaving school. "All I wanted — which I hate to say because Mother Shanley, who is now 98, was splendid — was to get out into the world."

She went to Madrid, Paris, New York. Then married Lord Reay, chief of the Clan Mackay, and dwindled into a wife. (She had not heard Congreve's expression.)

The marriage was not happy, and she divorced after years of indecision. "I'm not a saintly Catholic but God loves sinners, and although the Catholic Church is rigorous and difficult to live by, I think it's worth a try. What I minded most about divorcing is that it's so traumatic for the children, which is why I avoided it for as long as possible." (The eldest was 15, the youngest eight.)

She sent them to a Roman Catholic primary school until Mr Mudge, the headmaster, advised her to send the eldest to Westminster. "I really wanted them to go to Holland Park Comprehensive, but my friends did that with disastrous results. By the time I became a councillor in the 1970s there was £300,000 damage to the windows in a year."

She stood for the Tory council in Kensington and Chelsea, as a single parent. Life seemed to be one strike after another, so she decided that, instead of boring her friends rigid by complaining, she would lick envelopes to shut herself up. "I recommend this to all ladies: start in an unambitious way at the grass roots, and find out what you can do. Of course that doesn't apply today: young women now have the most terrifying confidence."

Later she stood as Tory candidate in Inverness, and tried for other hopeless seats. In 1985, she married Henry Keswick, a friend since childhood, chairman of Jardine Matheson. "Will you point out that my husband is not the 28th richest man in the country? He is one of an enormous family of about 150, who have a shareholding." She is, I am told, a very fine sight on her horse, out on the downs in Wiltshire at weekends, where the Keswicks have a house.

In 1989, she took the job of special policy adviser to Kenneth Clarke, then Health Secretary, who chose her from six other candidates: people marvelled at the mismatch of lifestyles, his beer-and-Hush-Puppies and hers chic and patrician, but they hit it off at once. She started the day the Tory health reforms were announced which was "like the Battle of the Somme". She had never, apart from an appendectomy in Scotland, been an NHS patient herself (she had her babies at Guy's, the third birth watched by students as a demonstration of natural childbirth) but a special adviser has to learn fast. "And Ken generated an enormous amount of activity wherever he went." Then on to Education, the Home Office and the Treasury.

'I avoided the trauma of divorce for as long as I could'

Now she is free to fulminate about education. "Why, after 16 years, have we not got a reliable education system? It's the thing parents mind about more than anything else. The reforms are good, but have to go faster. What's the point of talking about tax cuts when we could deliver a free first-rate service? We have to be more radical. One in four children can't read or write — but children will learn if they are taught.

"Tony Blair, by choosing a grant-maintained school for his son, has demonstrated that ideologues are out of the window, that people want good schools, that ideology is secondary to education, and it is acceptable to say this.

"HMI have been saying for 25 years that mixed-ability teaching disadvantages children. I went to a sink school the other day in Brent. Ten years ago it sent children to university; now it's at the bottom of the league. But there's a new keen head, who says she cannot deliver the new reforms without streaming classes, so she can deal with the unruly ones. They can have a good school again."

Mrs Keswick also has strong views on care in the community — "doctors have to be held personally responsible for the mentally ill they release, to be sued if necessary" — on the homeless, and on young tearaways who persecute communities. (Keswick and Blair should watch Roger Graef's programme on policing, on Channel 4 on Sunday, with its pertinent answers to this vital question.) "Tony Blair has sensibly said they're going to do something about all of these. There are whole policy areas which the Conservatives have failed to grip, and must.

"I remember saying to a Family Division judge, years ago, why do you award maintenance which is never going to be paid? and he said, 'that's nothing to do with us'. And now young girls in bovver boots say to hell with the father, they know he's not going to provide."

Six months ago Mrs Keswick decided to leave Kenneth Clarke's office. She was exhausted: she had lost, within a year, two of her brothers (Andrew and Simon Fraser) and her father. She went skiing and tried to reread Proust — "unbearably precious and dated" — but realised how bad she was at not being busy. "The more I do, the more Henry likes it." She went off to America — where, having no idea that the Centre job was in the offing, she visited New Right think-tanks, the Gingrichites, and Bob Dole's campaign team — and to Hong Kong.

She comes home to find her family's ancestral castle sold to Arin Gloag, the enterprising businessman's daughter who made her millions with her Stagecoach company.

"She's an excellent lady who will look after it brilliantly," says Mrs Keswick, "and that's what matters: she is looking after everyone there. And she is a Scot, and a Fraser. There is a beginning and an end to all things. So, well done her." Mrs Keswick owned none of it, anyway: primogeniture being what it is.

She promises that the Centre will shower us with hard-hitting pamphlets, examining the Government's record, issuing challenging reminders to be more Conservative. So you will say that certain policies have been failures? "Well, some have been less successful than others," she says. "But whatever Tony Blair says, a lot has been done." I realise, after two hours, that Tony Blair's name has been invoked half a dozen times; the name of John Major has not been mentioned at all.



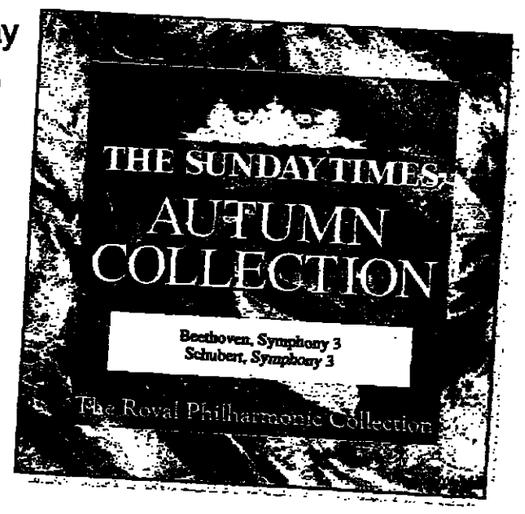
DES JENSON

Tessa Keswick, the surprise new director of the Centre for Policy Studies: "I have never had any doubts about being a Conservative"

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Making millions out of the morgue



Patricia Cornwell's books are not for the squeamish, says **Julia Llewellyn Smith**

Making millions out of the morgue

TONY WHITE



Bleak house: Patricia Cornwell's fictional world is terrorised by serial killers and scattered with bodies

Once you have read a Patricia Cornwell novel, you will never sleep with your window open, for fear of what *might come and find you in* the night. You will buy the best burglar alarm you can afford, insert a spyhole in your front door and realise, if Cornwell has her way, "that you can't walk through the world and not see what's going on around you".

Cornwell's *world* is irredeemably bleak. It is terrorised by serial killers, scattered with mutilated bodies and patrolled by a lonely woman pathologist, Dr Kay Scarpetta. Her novels are bereft of comfort, packed with random violence and immensely popular. Cornwell titles jam the bestseller lists in Britain and America. This summer beaches were packed with people hypnotised by unflinching descriptions of autopsies and gruesome accounts of sex crimes.

> 'My big fear is what can happen before you die'

In consequence, Cornwell, the former wife of a Presbyterian minister, is very rich. She has homes in Virginia, Los Angeles and Mayfair; a staff of 12, including a bodyguard; she drives a charcoal Mercedes sports car and has a personal shopper at Bergdorf Goodman, in New York, to select her Armani suits.

Yet there is nothing starry about Cornwell, a small, blonde woman with intense blue eyes, a Deep-South accent and an endearing frankness. She likes being rich and famous, but what she likes more is being able to lose herself in the world of Scarpetta.

"Scarpetta is remarkable, you can't take your eyes off her," says Cornwell, sipping iced tea in a London hotel. "She's intelligent, she's attractive. She is an honourable, hard-working, humane person who battles with the darkest of evil and emerges as a life force."

This paragon is also remarkably similar to her creator. Both were born in Miami, love to cook complicated Italian meals and are ex-smokers. "There are differences," says Cornwell. "I'm not really Catholic and I'm not really Italian." What does she mean *not really*? "Well, I'm really German and I'm Protestant. Scarpetta's a doctor and a lawyer, a supremely disciplined and educated person and *I'm an artist*."

But all this, Cornwell admits, is window dressing. "Her spirit is mine; we are both fighters, driven professionals, who find relationships difficult. Scarpetta is divorced and childless and so am I." She barks with laughter. "The only difference is that I'm not having an exciting affair like she is."

Scarpetta's every move is meticulously researched. In the next novel, *Cause of Death*, she will investigate an underwater crime scene, so Cornwell spent the summer scuba diving. "It wasn't something that came easily to me; the first time I got out of the pool I threw up." Such diligence pays dividends. Cornwell's fans love her technical descriptions of a murder investigation. "They are enchanted that you can pick up a cartridge and know what type of gun it came from. Anyone could do that with the right knowledge, you don't have to be Arnold Schwarzenegger, and people like to think that they are not reading make-believe."

Cornwell, 39, grew up in a small town in North Carolina and her parents divorced when she was seven. She married the Rev Charles Cornwell, her college English professor, who was 17 years her senior: "He was probably just the father who was never around when I was growing up."

For a while Cornwell was a dutiful housewife but, haunted by memories of a spell as a crime reporter for the *Charlotte Observer*, she became a part-time police officer and did menial jobs at the Virginia medical officer's office. "I spent six years in the morgue and that's a long time. At times I would go hollow inside, seeing children on the slab, grieving mothers and fathers, and when I got home I would be so fatigued. All the energy in my psyche was going toward pushing away the horror of this.

"Nobody was happy with me spending all day there, least of all my ex-husband, but I knew it was where I needed to be." She stares out of the window. In 1989, Mr Cornwell walked out, leaving his wife with three unpublished crime novels and a drawer full of rejection letters. "In those days Scarpetta was a peripheral character, then she said 'Will you let me be in charge?' and I said 'Go ahead'."

The first Scarpetta book, *Postmortem*, was published in 1990, and won four awards. Five more have appeared since then; the latest, *From Potter's Field*, will be made into a film next year. "Hollywood has wanted every one of my novels, but I would only let them if I could ensure they were not trivialised."

There is certainly nothing glossy about Cornwell's novels, nothing titillating in her descriptions of pregnant women shot in the head and young boys with chunks of skin bitten out. Nor is there any sympathy for the killer à la *Silence of the Lambs*. "After you have read my books, there is no way violence will be an abstraction to you, unless you are a twisted individual. The entertainment industry has had a terrible effect on society, by celebrating what it should condemn. Over my dead body will Gault [the psychopath character] be the hero of any movie. Scarpetta would probably kill me."

Her language is revealing. Cornwell is a woman teetering on paranoia, whose aim is to make her readers "more safety conscious. I watch *Lassie* and it scares me. I hear loud noises and I just jump right out of my skin. If I allowed my thoughts to wander I'd scare myself to death."

Ironically, fame has made Cornwell more vulnerable than ever to "sickos and weirdos". She lives surrounded by high-tech security equipment and owns several guns.

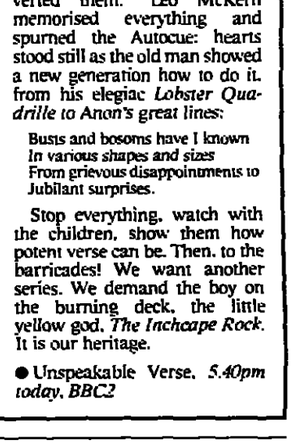
"There was never any crime where I grew up, nobody locked their doors, but I always had a Gothic imagination. My favourite holiday was Hallowe'en. If there was a dead log floating in the canal, to me it would become an alligator. Anyone else would have imagined it was something positive." Such as what? "I can't think of anything."

Her friend Ruth Graham (the evangelist Billy Graham's wife) said she didn't find Cornwell's novels scary because death did not frighten her. "But there's a lot of things that can happen to you before you die," says Cornwell. "My biggest fear is what might happen before that."

The telephone rings — and we both jump as we would at the sound of gunshot.

Auntie does her party piece

Libby Purves on the BBC's return to the simpler days of parlour recital



Leo McKern: inspired others

Week after week, whether by the Prince of Wales or the National Curriculum Council, the decline of finely tuned English is loudly mourned. Today, on half a shoestring and almost by accident, the BBC brings comfort.

Imagine: shambling home from a day of politically correct school English and expecting *only impoverished soap-speak*, unsuspecting children will punch the button and find themselves confronted by Miriam Margolyes speaking fluent Belloc, or Leo McKern rumbling: "Come, friendly bombs and fall on Slough . . ."

They will wonder when the *action starts: do we see the* bombs, will Henry King be played by Macaulay Culkin and chew real string? No: just words. Home entertainment has come full circle and the Party Piece is back. By this time next year it could be *de rigueur* for every home to have at least one family member who can do *Dangerous Dan McGrew*.

There are four reciters: Leo McKern, Miriam Margolyes, Hugh Laurie and the darkly gorgeous Louise Lombard, whose cleavage quivers splendidly during her rendering of *Jellicle Cats*. They demonstrate, in 11 sessions, the fine cadences, daring rhymes, subtle jokes and masterly language of English light verse. From Lewis Carroll to Wendy Cope they recite with spirit: they do Coward and Betjeman, Belloc and Eliot and Anon. It is magnificent. It brings tears to the eyes. It is terribly cheap.

For daytime TV is penurious, and staff who once commanded armies at Kensington House have been driven out into the tiny inventive worlds of independent production like so many Borrowers. One day someone was bound to rediscover simplicity: television is traditionally too nervous even to tell a *Jackanory* story without 20 expensive illustrations. Now, driven by need, it has stumbled on the treasure-chest of light verse in the national attic, and done it straight.

Adam Clapham of Griffin Productions says the idea emerged from a bigger, naffer enterprise. "We were in Prague making a film of Good King Wenceslas for the Family Channel. Leo McKern kept reciting in the hotel bar. Then Miriam Margolyes turned up to play Beethoven's mother in a movie, and we said, why not . . ." The team was completed by Laurie (his *Joan Hunter Dunn* makes strong *men quiver*) and Louise Lombard. "She was worried, it's not her generation — but she learnt." Indeed. Lombard's "She was poor but she was honest" is definitive.

Research was simplified by the fact that the director, Patricia Houlihan, has all the books. There were no studios: Hugh Laurie was filmed in Houlihan's own front room, impeded by her cat Archie "throwing himself noisily at the catflap and having to be restrained by the graphic designer". She deplored the generation gap: "Nobody under 30 in the crew knew any poetry at all except *Practical Cats*. We converted them." Leo McKern memorised everything and spurned the Autocue: hearts stood still as the old man showed a new generation how to do it, from his elegiac *Lobster Quadrille to Anon's great lines*:

> Busts and bosoms have I known
> In various shapes and sizes
> From grievous disappointments to
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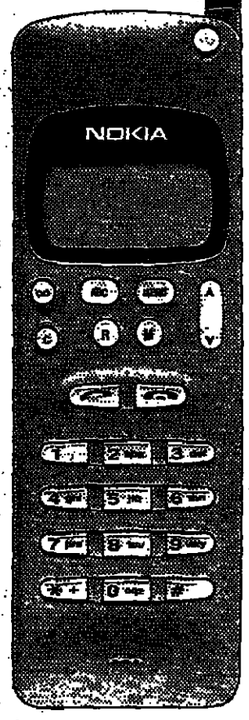
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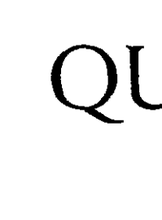
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Governing with the tongue

Seamus Heaney on poetry's relations with the world

What do I mean by "the government of the tongue"? I mean poetry as its own vindicating force. In this dispensation, the tongue (representing both a poet's personal gift of utterance and the common resources of language itself) has been granted the right to govern.

The poetic art is credited with an authority of its own. Poetry's special status among the literary arts derives from the audience's readiness to concede to it a similar efficacy and resource. The poet is credited with a power to open unexpected and unedited communications between our nature and the nature of the reality we inhabit.

The oldest evidence for this attitude appears in the Greek notion that when a lyric poet gives voice, "it is a god that speaks". And the attitude persists into the 20th century: one thinks of Rilke's restatement of it in his *Sonnets to Orpheus* and, in English, we may cite the familiar instance of Robert Frost's essay "The Figure a Poem Makes".

For Frost, any interference by the knowing intellect in the purely disinterested imagination constitutes poetic sabotage, an affront to the legislative and executive powers of expression itself.

"Read it a hundred times," says Frost of the true poem. "It can never lose its sense of a meaning that once unfolded by surprise as it went . . . It begins in delight, it inclines to the impulse, it assumes direction with the first line laid down, it runs a course of lucky events and ends in a clarification of life — not necessarily a great clarification, such as sects and cults are founded on, but in a momentary stay against confusion."

In this way, the order of art becomes an achievement intimating a possible order beyond itself, although its relation to that further order remains promissory rather than obligatory. Art is not an inferior reflection of some ordained heavenly system, but a rehearsal of it in earthly terms; art does not trace the given map of a better reality, but improvises an inspired sketch of it.

However, a voice from another part of me speaks in rebuke. "Govern your tongue", it says, compelling to remember that my title can also imply a denial of the tongue's autonomy. One remembers Gerard Manley Hopkins's "Habit of Perfection", with its command to the eyes to be "shelled", the ears to attend to silence and the tongue to know its place:

> Shape nothing, lips: be lovely-dumb:
> It is the shut, the curfew sent
> From there where all surrenders come
> Which only makes you eloquent.

It is even more instructive to remember that Hopkins abandoned poetry when he entered the Jesuit order, "as not having to do with my vocation". This discloses a condition of public and private repressions, where the undirected hedonistic play of imagination is regarded at best as luxury or licentiousness, at worst as heresy or treason.

In ideal Platonic republics, in Soviet republics, in the Vatican and Bible-belt, it is a common expectation that the writer will sign over his or her venturesome and potentially disruptive activity into the keeping of an official doctrine, a traditional system, a party line, whatever.

We have grown familiar with the tragic destiny which these circumstances impose upon poets and with the way in which "ungoverned" poetry and poets, in extreme totalitarian conditions, can become a form of alternative government, or government in exile.

I was struck, for example, to learn that lines by the poet Czeslaw Milosz are incorporated into the memorial to the Solidarity workers outside the gates of the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk.

But I was stunned by the image which Andrei Sinyavsky provides of the subversive and necessary function of writing as truth-telling, when he tells how, at the height of the Stalin terror, Alexander Kutzenov used to seal his manuscripts in glass preserving jars and bury them in his garden at night-time.

> Art is an improvised sketch of a better reality

It is all there: the suggestion of art's curative powers, its stored goodness and its ultimate appeal to "the reader in posterity". The scene has the perturbing oneiric reality of an actual dream and could stand for the kind of ominous premonition which a dictator might experience, waking in the small hours and remembering the reality of the poetry he would constrain.

For the moment, however, I am concerned with states of affairs less repressive and less malign. I am thinking not so much of authoritarian censorship as of an implacable consensus in which the acceptable themes are given variously resourceful treatments, and in which the felicity or correctness of a work's execution constitutes the conspicuous focus of attention for both audience and artist.

It is not right to assume that such conditions always produce inferior art. As a poet, for example, George Herbert surrendered himself to a framework of belief and an instituted religion; but in his case, it happened that his personality was structured in such a way that he could dwell in amity with doctrine, writing a poetry which was intellectually pure, emotionally robust and entirely authentic.

Its discipline, however, proved equal to its challenges, so that a pun on the word *choler*, meaning both outburst of anger and emblem of submission, could hold the psychic and artistic balance; and a rhyme of "child" with "wild" could put the distress of his personal predicament in a divinely ordained perspective.

The author yesterday won the 1995 Nobel Prize for Literature. This article is extracted from his collection of essays The Government of the Tongue *(Faber & Faber).*



"NOT ONLY DID HE PLAY THE RACE CARD, BUT HE DEALT IT FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE DECK."

The Jews who choose

Though rabbis wail and priests gnash their teeth, indifference to religion is spreading inexorably

Bernard Levin

Who said this, and why? "A hundred years ago we had the faith but not the land. Today we have the land, but what has happened to the faith?"

The words come from Dr Jonathan Sacks, Chief Rabbi of Britain. Two days ago he, and all devout Jews, were participating in the most solemn rite of Jewry: Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

I am a Jew, but I was not taking part in the prayers and the rituals. I confess — and Dr Sacks, if he reads these words, will shake his head in sorrow and pain — that I did not even know what special day it was, and I went about all my secular doings, ignorant of the day's significance, until a *Times* colleague — and a Christian, too! — enlightened me.

I am not proud of the words above, but neither do I feel shame. My question is: should I?

I know, of course, that I have lost something precious, or at least beautiful, in abandoning the faith of my forebears. My home was not a religious one; my grandfather read the scriptures to himself silently and struggled through a little English; my grandmother, who could read no language at all, lit a candle on the appropriate days, as did my mother, though for her it was not really a religious sign. My uncles were quite secular (one played the cello in the band of the Savoy Hotel — beat that!), and had hardly anything to do with the religion of their father and grandfathers. My amazing aunt Edith, who died a year or so ago at 95, was a *shikse* (Christian), and thus suspect in the family, but I never heard of her going to any kind of church.

But, as Dr Sacks well knows, he is fighting a losing cause, and I cannot help him in it. I quote:

> What has happened to a people that survived longer than any other, in conditions more arduous than any other, that suddenly we have begun to lose the will to live as Jews? . . . Today Jews are free, and accepted, and successful, and above all we have a home. Is it possible that the greatest danger to Jewish survival will turn out to be, God forbid, not Nazi Germany or Soviet Russia but our own indifference?

And, as Rabbi Sacks knows to his grief, the answer is yes. Yes, the Jewish people, living in perfect safety, will die of their indifference. And not, as Rabbi Sacks instantly saw, their differences. But here is a test, I think a grim one.

All round me on my desk as I write are cuttings. They are all about the same thing: the recently discovered huge sums of money, most in Swiss banks, which have been traced to the fallen Jews. It seems that money and valuables were smuggled into Switzerland, the owners' hopes being that one day they would reclaim their own. Alas, there was to be no own, but now there are the offspring of the fallen, and they are claiming their rightful sums.

> But the World Jewish Congress and other agencies acting on behalf of Holocaust victims said that the forsaken deposits represented only a fraction of the wealth confiscated from Jewish victims in Eastern Europe that may have been stashed by the Nazis in Swiss banks or safe deposit boxes . . . the Nazi boss Heinrich Himmler for example . . . sent a hoard of paintings, jewellery and money, stolen from Hungarian Jews, to Switzerland towards the end of the war . . .

Yes, but would *you* wish to claim money that had passed through the hands of Heinrich Himmler? And even if you didn't mind, what about the arguments that are breaking out every day now, in which one Swiss banker says that the billions believed to be hidden never existed, and another banker says that even greater sums did exist, and the Swiss demand at least £500 to search for possible treasure, and . . .

Well, I think Rabbi Sacks must have taken the point. Where will he go to find those spotless Jews who reject the very idea of marrying out of the faith? Where will he find the ranks upon ranks to fill his noble endeavour? How will I and so many others reject — gently, I hope — the very idea of going back to our Jewish roots, when we rush to pick over the stolen necklace that once adorned the neck of Goering's wife?

But we Jews aren't the only ones. Solzhenitsyn, after his return to Russia, has found that his voice is heeded by only a few, or at least followed by a few. The world goes round, and will not stop; Russia is crumbling, and the mighty edifice that Solzhenitsyn should by now be erecting has been little more than a whistle-stop journey.

But we don't need to go anywhere near Russia to find such disappointment: how many empty churches of the Church of England are there now, and how many will there be ten years hence, and how many in another ten years? The Papacy shivers, believing that any prop that breaks will sooner or later bring down the whole edifice, and yet faithful Roman Catholic priests want to be ordinary people. And why should the Jews be different?

Because, comes the answer, the Jews *are* different. Yes, but one by one, and ten by ten, and thousand by thousand, the Jews are becoming wholly secular, and not Rabbi Sacks nor the Beth Din, nor the memories of Jewry will stop them. We look to the United States, where there are more Jews than there are in Israel, and their numbers are shrinking too. The Rabbi points to the numbers of Jews who marry "out of the faith"; if the numbers in the synagogues are falling, it means the same thing. And if this tide continues there will be no breakwaters. I cheat: there is no *if*, and the tide *will* go on rising.

Over the centuries, whole nations have disappeared, not just by tides and starvation and epidemic; look up and see Tibet, one of the greatest nations the world has ever seen, which in less than a couple of generations will be no more. (True, Tibet will have been destroyed by China's evil and the rest of the world's cowardice, but that doesn't make it any better.)

And here I am, a Jew who doesn't really understand what being a Jew means, and even as I say that, Rabbi Sacks shakes his head again in sorrow. But I *don't really* understand what being a Jew means. Nevertheless, one thing is certain: I am not alone in my bewilderment. And that bewilderment can mean one thing only: that we shall not be coming back to the fold, and nor will our descendants.

Why is the world — well, almost all the world — dispensing with religion? Yes, of course that is a ridiculous thing to say, for very many millions say religion is the most important thing in their lives. Assuredly, Rabbi Sacks does. But overall, the numbers shrink. And it can't *always* be Dr Richard Dawkins who frightens the rest of us off.

Are we to think that the only place in which a religion is taken completely and seriously is the black side of Algeria? Algeria, where more than 30,000 people have been murdered in the last few years, solely to destroy Algeria entirely. And in what name is Algeria to be wiped out? Allah's. For the Muslim fanatics will not cease their murdering until they can rule in Algeria, and a mad, savage and wicked rule it will be. (Presumably, the idea is to make the whole world Muslim, so Rabbi Sacks and apostate Levin will be in the same boat.)

I have come far from the wise, gentle, far-seeing Rabbi Sacks. But what or who will bring back young Jewry to the faith, when young Jewry hardly knows what a Jew is? Perhaps I should say that of myself.

And yet the Rabbi must not despair, for he has a tiny foothold. It is an odd one, but any port in a storm. When I am filling in a form on which there is a space labelled "Religion", I don't hesitate, but put Jew.

So I go back to where we started. Am I a Jew? If I do not pray with the Jews, and sing with the Jews, and cover my head with the Jews, and refuse to eat pork with the Jews, and read books backwards with the Jews, how can I be a Jew? Well, don't forget the form that I filled in.

Rabbi Sacks will not give in, of course, and he makes that clear, saying,

> I am calling for us to reflect, not only on an individual return but a collective return towards a less secular mode of Jewish existence.

Does he believe that can happen? Or does he just wish it would?

Reported without prejudice

Magnus Linklater on Scotland's stringent controls

Scandalous, unfair, outrageous and oppressive. Routine hyperbole in the mouth of a politician, these words carry some weight when spoken by a Crown Court judge. They were used this week by Judge Sanders to describe the way the tabloid press reported on the Geoff Knights case before it came to court. His propensity for violence was portrayed in headlines like "Beastender" — which were so prejudicial, in the judge's view, that Mr Knights could no longer have a fair trial.

Trial by tabloid has now become so familiar in England that Scottish journalists occasionally have to pinch themselves to remember that they are living in the same kingdom. Although Scotland is governed by the same laws of contempt as England, the way they are interpreted is totally different. If Scottish editors had run such stories about Mr Knights's private life in advance of his trial, they would now be in jail.

Whether this means that Scottish practice should be emulated in England is another matter. Most journalists north of the border would argue that the balance has swung too far the other way. Huge fines have been handed out for misdemeanours which would scarcely be noticed now in England. The classic case is the £20,000 fine imposed on the Editor of the *Glasgow Herald* in 1979 for running a story about a Dutch drugs gang. It gave details of a drug ring smashed by police. The inference was that the men arrested had been involved. The information was based on a police report from England and was checked by a lawyer, but it so scandalised the judge, Lord Clyde, that in handing down the sentence, he imposed an extra fine of £750 on the editor personally.

There have been several similar cases, most of them committed through ignorance, some because of reports from English agencies. In 1988, commenting on a case in which the *Daily Express* was fined £30,000, Lord Emslie gave the clearest exposition of what he believed the standards of reporting should be: "Our system of criminal justice in Scotland depends essentially upon the proposition that jurors called to try an accused person should arrive in the jury box without knowledge or impression of facts, or alleged facts, relating to the crime charge on the indictment."

But it is in the interpretation of that dictum that the crucial difference lies. Scottish newspapers are governed by the same Act as their English counterparts: the 1981 Contempt of Court Act. Its aim was to liberalise the law. In Scotland, however, it seems to have had the opposite effect. Judges have continued to take a dim view of the smallest misdemeanour, and the Lord Advocate has continued to restrain papers.

But the restraint has not always been uniform. When I was Editor of *The Scotsman*, we heard that Jim McLean, then the manager of Dundee United, had been involved in an altercation with a television cameraman at Edinburgh airport. He had, not to put too fine a point on it, headbutted him. Inquiries revealed that Mr McLean had been "held" by police for questioning, though whether he had been charged was unclear. However, the contempt laws clearly applied and we ran only a small anonymous paragraph about "a man" involved in "an incident". Next day *The Sun* carried the full lurid story, together with a picture of Mr McLean. No prosecution followed. I registered a strong complaint with the Crown Office in Edinburgh, making the point that if we had run the story I would undoubtedly have been in court next day. "Ah," said an official, "but you would never have done that at *The Scotsman*, would you?"

Nor is this the only inconsistency in the Scottish system. Two papers which reported a recent case of an escaped killer on the run found themselves being dealt with in very different ways. One, the *Evening Times* of Glasgow, said that the man, who had been in custody, might be dangerous. It also published his picture. The other, the *Daily Record*, wrongly described him as a killer, but made no mention of the fact that he would shortly be standing trial. The *Record* got off, but the *Evening Times* was fined £2,750 on the ground that potential witnesses might be influenced.

More important, perhaps, is the way in which the threat of severe sanctions has muzzled the press in Scotland. There is a marked absence of the investigative reporting that should be carried out when a crime has been committed. The mere knowledge that police are "questioning" a man, "holding" him or keeping him under arrest, is often enough to persuade editors to call off their reporters. One lawyer calls it the "chilling effect", and it is not a healthy one for journalism.

So, while legal experts would do well to look hard at the system in Scotland, which offers a suspect greater protection from prejudicial reporting than anywhere else in the world, they should do so with one eye at least on the way in which it curtails the investigative instincts of a vigorous press.

No Joy here

TONY BLAIR'S posse of image consultants and spin-doctors has been afflicted by a bout of infighting. So strained are relations between the Labour leader's advisers that many are predicting that one of them — the former BBC political news editor, Joy Johnson — is about to resign.

Johnson is Blair's director of campaigns, elections and media. Her brief is to organise Labour's bid for power, along with Peter Mandelson and Blair's belligerent press secretary, Alastair Campbell. But on Monday night, she was said to be close to tears after yet another "bust-up" with her comrades.

As rumours flew around Brighton yesterday, Joy Johnson — who in February left behind a salary of at least £50,000 at the BBC to join the party — was forced to deny any plans to leave. But she later informed former colleagues at the corporation that she did not intend to put up with the situation for much longer.

"She says her opinion is never sought, and if she ventures a view, it is ignored," says a confidante. "She is thoroughly disillusioned with the lot of them, and I believe she'll be out of the Labour Party within weeks."

The final straw came, apparently, when Campbell decided to plead with the BBC to give Blair's conference speech priority in news bulletins over the O.J. Simpson acquittal. There are many who believe that, with her contacts, she might have taken a less ham-fisted approach than Campbell.



Joy Johnson: in a spin

● *Due deference is being shown by staff at the London* Evening Standard, *where Max Hastings arrives as Editor in January. The car park warning "Max Headroom 7ft" has already been altered to read "Mr Max Headroom".*

Chuffed

TRAINSPOTTERS are on the edge of their platforms. In an attempt to improve the image of the Thermos flask and notebook brigade, the Institute of Railway Studies in York is running a series of lectures entitled "Casting off the Anorak".

"This course aims to break the mould — and persuade people to throw away their anoraks," proclaims a spokesman, complaining that the popular press perpetuates the myth that an interest in railways reflects some form of personal inadequacy.

● *The Terrence Higgins Trust, an Aids charity, has given away 1,200 free condoms so far this week at the Labour Party conference. But prudery precludes such generosity at the Conservatives' conference in Blackpool next week, where the trust has taken a stand for the first time. "We don't mind literature being displayed," said the Conservatives. "But the conference will not be requiring condoms."*

Extra time

GAVIN HASTINGS, captain of Scotland and former captain of the British Lions, returned to his *alma mater* on Monday and fell into bad old habits. As an undergraduate at Magdalene, he was a member of the Wyvern, a legendary Cambridge drinking society where he broke the initiation record by downing three and a half pints of beer in 35 seconds.

His visit this week coincided with the society's drinking night in the Pickerel Arms near the college. "He wasn't wearing a tie when he came in," says a fellow member, "and the penalty is to buy a round for everyone. He had to buy 13 pints."

Doddering on

WAS THE audience at the Princess Theatre at Hunstanton in Norfolk laughing or yawning? The other day it sat through four hours and ten minutes of Ken Dodd's trickery and tickle-sticking, as he broke his own world record for the longest stand-up comedy show.

"He just went on and on and on. It was very funny and the audience all stayed to the end, but we were thinking about leaving the key under the mat and asking him to lock up when he left. He eventually wound up at 12.45am," says a member of the theatre staff.

Dodd's limitless stamina is well recorded. "The problem is getting him off the stage," says his publicist of 25 years, Robert Holmes. "When he was last at the Palladium it was part of his contract that he had to be off stage by 10.30 or he would be liable for all the overtime. He had a light that came on in front of him when time was up. He came off very promptly."



"Hang on, I thought the media couldn't interfere"

Ladder of law

COMMERCIAL opportunism has reached new heights, now that O.J. Simpson has been found not guilty. As crowds gathered yesterday outside his home, a local garden centre dispatched a lorryload of ladders to the fans craning for a peek at the former footballer. A dozen or so of the ladders sold immediately to the onlookers, who propped them against Simpson's hedge and climbed up for a better view.

P·H·S

WHITE HEAT

Technology is an insufficient basis for new politics

Tony Blair's most unexpected *coup de théâtre* this week was his announcement of a deal with British Telecom which would give the company greater market freedom in return for the wiring up of every school, hospital and library to the information superhighway. Among computer analysts, this sort of declaration is called "vapourware", the entrepreneurial announcement of a distant objective in order to scare off prospective competitors. Mr Blair may not be Prime Minister, but he is already acting like one.

The doubts surrounding this particular announcement are clear. Most schools, for instance, lack the hardware required to take advantage of this offer, having invested in primitive computers during the 1980s. On average, schoolchildren are taught computer technology for only 20 minutes a week and the majority of that time is spent on simple word processing. The prospect of thousands of crumbling municipal buildings each with a single terminal linked to the Internet scarcely stirs the soul.

Yet it is the message rather than the detail of Mr Blair's deal with BT that matters. The national grid of optical fibres which it would produce is emblematic of broader themes tackled by the Opposition leader this week. In his speech on Tuesday, he put technology at the centre of his vision for a revitalised Britain; he made it a metaphor for progress. "The combination of know-how and technology will transform the lives of us all," he said. He invited his party to imagine "European business finalising a deal with the Japanese, with simultaneous translation down the phone line". He envisaged an education system in which every child had access to a laptop computer. Mr Blair's speech owed far more to Newt Gingrich than to Aneurin Bevan or even Hugh Gaitskell.

In this respect, the politics of new Labour are converging with the politics of many on the Tory Right. John Redwood has consistently emphasised the liberating effect of technology and the importance of the information revolution. He has imported to Britain Mr Gingrich's argument that the free market in tandem with information technology will transform citizenship and make redundant the old-fashioned bureaucratic State. There will be much discussion of such themes at next week's Conservative Party conference. The Right will have to decide whether it likes this approach or prefers Michael Portillo's less futuristic emphasis upon British institutions and traditional virtues such as honour, prudence and thrift.

What does this new preoccupation add up to? The mighty have always loved to associate themselves with the wonders of science and technology. Just as the oligarchs of the Renaissance city states revelled in new naval and commercial technology, so the Soviet Union in its early years celebrated electrification as the soul of the proletariat's dictatorship. Churchill kept Professor Frederick Lindemann close beside him; Ronald Reagan made the Strategic Defence Initiative — the so-called "Star Wars" programme — the heart of his efforts to end the Cold War through scientific superiority.

Mr Blair's speech invited mocking comparisons with Harold Wilson's "white heat of technology" vision in 1963. Yet it is easy to forget how politically effective this vision was. It was a symbolic means of distinguishing Wilson's Labour from the Conservatism of Harold Macmillan and Alec Douglas-Home. It signified the passing of a generation. In their different ways, Mr Blair, Mr Redwood and Mr Gingrich are aspiring to the same goal. Radical Conservatives see "third wave" information technology as a libertarian force, empowering individuals and freeing them from the grip of the State. Communitarians such as Mr Blair see the information superhighway as a high street running through civic society, repairing communities and updating the institutions of the welfare state.

The technology card has often been a useful one to play. Yet it is no basis for a social vision. What matters is not that all pupils have access to a laptop, but how they use them. Fibre optic technology does not teach children how to spell or add up. Nor does it necessarily teach adults to be better citizens. Why trust Newt Gingrich's vision of technology rather than Aldous Huxley's? In the midst of this new political vogue, it is worth remembering that technology is not an end in itself but one means among many. The celebration of technology does not excuse politicians from the duty to spell out their plans and principles. The hardware is important; but it is software that counts.

THE REDRESS OF POETRY

The poet Heaney lives on the 'frontier of writing'

Seamus Heaney has won the Nobel Prize for Literature. Those who know his verses will rejoice: few if any poets now writing in the English language can point to a body of work of comparable quality to that of Mr Heaney's *New Selected Poems, 1966-1987*. His prose is scarcely less distinguished than his poetry: *The Governance of the Tongue*, an extract from which appears opposite, gives a remarkable insight into the workings of the poetic mind. He has excelled, too, as a teacher: his recently published Oxford lectures are a fitting testimony to his memorable tenure of the Professorship of Poetry.

So: a brilliant literary career; commensurate stature as a public figure in Ireland, North and South; and a personal magnetism to which all who have met him will attest. What more could even the notoriously fastidious Swedish Academy of Letters have asked? And yet the highest honour that can be bestowed upon a writer ought not to reward mere fame and success — for they are often transient. One must dig deeper for the true reason why Seamus Heaney does indeed deserve the Nobel Prize, as W.B. Yeats and Samuel Beckett did before him.

The answer must lie in Heaney's insights into Ireland and the Irish — a quasi-political responsibility which transcends the normal vocation of the poet. The period from 1969 to 1994, euphemistically known as the Troubles, was anything but a normal experience for those who lived through it. A writer who had nothing adequate to say about the violence and hatred of those years would not deserve to be honoured at home, let alone abroad.

Seamus Heaney, however, has more than done his duty to his people. In his first major collection, published 30 years ago, he evoked the present misery of his fellow Roman Catholics, as well as their ancestors in the great famine of the 1840s with *At a Potato Digging*: "A people hungering from birth, / grubbing, like plants, upon the earth, / were grafted with great sorrow. / Hope rotted like a marrow." In his maturity a decade later, he wrote *Punishment*, a poem about the tarring and lynching of an adulteress. But there was a much wider — and wholly contemporary message — for those "who would connive / in civilised outrage / yet understand the exact / and tribal, intimate revenge." Mr Heaney does not mince his words.

His Nobel Prize coincides with a new beginning for Northern Ireland. This is a chance for the poet to return to his roots in Londonderry: not to live, for he is happily settled in Dublin, but for an extended stay, perhaps, during which his muse may get to work. Seamus Heaney still needs his native land, as inspiration if not as domicile. And his countrymen certainly need his gentle but unsparing wisdom.

UPWARDLY MOBILE

Give a dog a good name

How heartening is the news that Bullseye, the abandoned burglar's dog who showed police the way to his home and thus to the address of their wanted man, is now going straight in the grandest imaginable style. From a life of crime on a council estate in Northumberland, via a city animals' shelter when his apprehended master spurned him, he has been spirited away in a chauffeur-driven car by John Paul Getty II and taken up residence on the tycoon's Buckinghamshire estate.

Renamed after the villainous Bill Sykes's canine companion in *Oliver Twist*, Bullseye follows in the distinguished paw-steps of literary dogs who have served as instruments of crime and punishment. Sherlock Holmes's Hound of the Baskerville's was just one of a long line of Carlos's, Pompeys, Roys and Tobys to play a decisive role in the plots of the mystery stories. Tin-Tin's Snowy was an astute scourge of wrongdoers on several continents.

So far, so noble. Bullseye must now come to terms with a more difficult although equally familiar literary role as the hero of a rags-to-riches saga. We await news of how he fares in the company of the Getty household's other dogs, who have not enjoyed as robust a life as he. Having spent his young life as a burglar's accomplice, the sight of the philanthropist's silver and paintings (to say nothing of Mrs Getty's glittering jewels) are likely to provide sore temptation.

The social implications of Bullseye's fate are substantial. Newcastle's Animal Shelter had no hesitation in handing him over to the Gettys, who amply fulfilled requirements by providing not one but several good homes for him. Could this not be construed as the four-legged version of the assisted places scheme to which Labour remains opposed, on the ground that rescuing the few from underprivilege is not an adequate response to inequality? Staunch Tories, on the other hand, will applaud Bullseye's initiative and hope that he provides inspiration to others.

But the assumption that animals want to be rescued from circumstances which we in our anthropomorphic limitation consider to be undesirable is flawed. When the Berlin Wall fell, pitching the hundreds of German shepherd dogs who patrolled the closed border into redundancy, well-meaning West German families offered homes by the score to the four-legged defenders of the vanquished Communist order.

Like their human counterparts, however, they adapted grudgingly to their new environment, developing digestive problems because of the richness of Western dogfood and becoming irritable owing to lack of exercise. A substantial number were returned to the authorities for placement with the united German border troops or as police dogs. Happiness for some will always be the hard life, however appealing the soft option may sound to us.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Europe at odds on EMU target

From Mr Christopher Johnson

Sir, Your leader today, "Death of an EMU", is wishful thinking. You report on the front page that the European finance ministers in Valencia confirmed the target date of January 1, 1999, for the start of the single currency, together with the reported view of Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, that this date could be missed by two years, but that if it was postponed "the world would not collapse".

Your leader also says that it is "almost impossible" for France to satisfy the Maastricht criteria by 1999. Yet France already satisfies all the criteria except the budget deficit of 3 per cent of GDP, and has published its commitment to reach this target by 1997, the year now to be used in examining the statistics. (The UK plans to reduce its deficit to 2¾ per cent of GDP by 1996-97, and is thus also expected to pass this criterion.)

How can your leader-writer then conclude that "it is now almost impossible to imagine a sequence of events that will lead to a monetary union in Europe in the foreseeable future"?

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
(UK Adviser, Association for the Monetary Union of Europe),
39 Wood Lane, N6.
October 2.

From Mr Jack Butler

Sir, Surely there is no need for damaging and divisive debate concerning Britain's membership of the EMU and its adoption of a single currency. All we need to do is to stop trailing the opt-out flag and remind our fellow members gently that it still exists, but that we have an open mind about using it.

Next, we should support Germany firmly in its call for the tightest possible application of the convergence criteria before members are allowed to conform to — and oppose equally firmly — any attempt to fudge them. However, we do not necessarily have to struggle too hard ourselves to meet those criteria if in doing so our national interests or economic health are damaged; and, of course if we do not meet them, we are disqualified from joining until we do.

Confrontational diplomacy, conviction politics, priority of principle over pragmatism — these have never been our way and never should be.

Yours faithfully,
JACK BUTLER,
Flat 5, Park Court,
84 Park Road, Southport, Merseyside.
October 2.

From Mr Colin Hannaford

Sir, I certainly would not disagree with you that today, now that Chancellor Kohl has made clear that he has changed his mind on EMU, the future of Europe has been "transformed".

But does this not speak to you very clearly of the present state of democracy in Europe? And of its future: what of that?

Yours sincerely,
COLIN HANNAFORD,
10 Marlborough Court, Oxford.
October 2.

Studying from home

From Mr Duncan Heenan

Sir, Your Education Correspondent (report, October 2) gives little weight to simple lack of money as a force in the increasing trend for university students to live at home.

This trend is likely to increase with the progressive phasing out of student grants. A full maintenance grant now just about covers the cost of a room rental for a year, leaving all other study and living costs to be met by, usually, parents.

Although studying from home is cheaper than living away, it is a retrograde trend. Study is only part of the university experience, and forcing students to study in their home town also reduces the choice of course available to them. Ultimately the scaling down of state support for higher education will make it unavailable to bright youngsters who happen to have parents of slender means.

Like many children of the Sixties, I would never have gone to university if I had not had a grant. I would be happy to pay higher taxes for my resultingly higher earnings to help others to do so now. Student grants are a long-term investment for us all.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN HEENAN,
21 Gotherington Lane,
Bishops Cleeve,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
October 2.

Put in our place

From Mr Trevor Mound

Sir, A pedestal? Certainly not for any Letters Editor who will allow "Who shall we put on our pedestals?" as a headline (letters, October 5).

Yours faithfully,
TREVOR MOUND,
8 Beaufort East, Bath, Avon.
October 5.

Sports letters, page 43

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Britain's stance on nuclear tests

From the New Zealand High Commissioner

Sir, Your editorial of October 4 defends Britain's stance of not criticising French nuclear testing upon the grounds that the environmental dangers are overstated and that the French have "justified their nuclear tests ... to ensure the safety of that country's nuclear arsenal". Regrettably, it does not debate this conclusion with the contrary opinion — that there are significant risks in using such dangerous material and that the French have not begun to justify why they need to develop better and new nuclear warheads at this time.

But, also, I believe that your discussion of the issue is too narrow. At a time when nations are seeking to promote world peace and to prevent the use of catastrophic weapons, the French are flying in the face of these efforts by expanding their nuclear capability.

Likewise, France is setting a bad example to nations or organisations, less democratised and less responsible than itself, who might develop such weapons. Is that the way for a responsible nation to behave?

The French justification is that their testing is necessary for world security. However, most countries do not want to be protected either by France or by its deterrent.

You chastise New Zealand and Australia for losing their "customary poise" and for being "simplistic" and "opportunistic". Yet our stance has the support of virtually all countries of the Pacific, Asia, Americas, Africa, and the significant majority of European countries.

Britain should not be the target in this debate, nor is it the "bad guy". It is not testing. It will sign the comprehensive test ban treaty. Furthermore, Britain has its own relationship with France to consider. But your editorial should also reflect that Britain could be isolated in its views in the face of world opinion; and, as indicated above, there are broader questions at issue here than those you raise.

Yours truly,
JOHN COLLINGE,
New Zealand High Commission,
New Zealand House,
80 Haymarket, SW1.
October 4.

From Mr Daniel Gowan

Sir, As a New Zealander resident in the United Kingdom who maintains a continuing interest in the Pacific region, I believe that your editorial is wide of the mark. Whilst it is certainly the case that many of the protesters in Tahiti and the surrounding areas of the South Pacific do support the total abandonment of nuclear weapons, the widespread support for protest from virtually all governments and people who live in the South Pacific area goes far beyond the narrow constituency of those who seek a total end to nuclear weapons.

The great majority of those who live in the South Pacific do not object to France or any other major power possessing nuclear weapons. What they object to is France conducting nuclear weapons tests in the South Pacific. If the tests are technically required, as you suggest, and are safe, as France says, then why can they not be conducted in France where there is an abundant land mass?

The answer of course is that it is politically unacceptable. In the view of France what is politically unacceptable at home is acceptable in the South Pacific. It is simply a case of "mind over matter" — France does not mind and the people of the South Pacific do not matter.

The testing of French nuclear weapons in the South Pacific is morally indefensible and Britain knows this and should say so.

Yours faithfully,
DANIEL GOWAN,
Davies Arnold Cooper
(Solicitors),
6-8 Bouverie Street, EC4.
October 4.

From Mr M. R. Field

Sir, It is one thing to support the principle of nuclear testing and quite another to say that it is acceptable to hold tests in someone else's backyard. The "acute understanding of sovereign rights" that you attribute to Britain obviously doesn't extend to the peoples of the Pacific.

Yours sincerely,
M. R. FIELD,
Stable House, Salisbury Hall,
London Colney, Hertfordshire.
October 4.

From the Marquis of Lansdowne, Croix de Guerre, Légion d'Honneur

Sir, I feel sure that many of your readers will have been as pleased as I was to be reassured that the old Thunderer continues to express strong and sensible arguments to counter simplistic and opportunistic attitudes.

Perhaps it is only a semantic point, but I would have admired your leading article even more had you urged Britain to stand *up* for France over nuclear testing. Do we not, on so many important issues, content ourselves with standing *by*?

Yours faithfully,
LANSDOWNE (President,
The Franco-British Society),
Meikleour House, Perth.
October 5.

US attitude to Balkan conflict

From Professor Bruce Collins

Sir, Sir Fitzroy Maclean ("Marshall Plan for Balkans?", September 28) commands respect for his knowledge and understanding of the former Yugoslavia, but his suggestion seems to me to be flawed. Initiatives modelled on the Marshall aid programme are often proposed without appreciating why the prototype emerged.

First, the US became a central European power in 1945, responsible for administering a large part of Germany. This astonishing, sudden change in America's world role alarmed many Americans. Moreover, by 1947 the costs of controlling and sustaining an economically crippled Germany were becoming unacceptably high: those costs would only fall if Germany's economy revived.

Second, after 1945 the US became the world's leading trading country, another dramatic break with the past. Over one third of American visible exports went to Europe. But American visible imports from Europe were worth only a fraction of American goods entering Europe: unless Europe's ability to pay suddenly expanded, there was a danger that American exporting would collapse and unemployment soar.

Third, by mid-1947 the US had accepted the need to contain Soviet communism. American policy-makers believed that economic recovery would prevent Western Europe falling to internal communist subversion encouraged by Moscow. A massive programme of economic aid to Western Europe thus met US administrative, economic and strategic interests.

Former Yugoslavia has no comparable significance for contemporary America, or indeed for Western Europe. A plausible and powerful case of Western involvement arises from our desire for regional stability and from moral objections to ethnic cleansing. But if Western Europeans cannot be spurred to concerted action by that case, one can scarcely expect Americans to be swayed by it.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE COLLINS,
University of Buckingham,
School of Humanities,
Buckingham MK18 1EG.
October 3.

Seeds of faith

From Professor R. V. Jones

Sir, Lord Rees-Mogg's comment on the thirst of the Hindu gods for milk ("On the milky way to enlightenment", September 25) invokes recall of earlier "miraculous" manifestations on the Indian sub-continent.

My post-war work on crystal growth led me to contact a firm in the East End of London which made fine chemicals. When members of the firm learned that I intended to use some of their products for growing crystals, they told me that before the war they, too, had grown crystals out of potassium nitrate, which they had been asked to cast into moulds to make small images of the Buddha. For these they had a steady, if bewildering demand, and their customers were Buddhist priests.

The firm's inquiries led to the revelation that if an Indian villager had, for example, a fig tree that was fruiting poorly and he sought his priest's help, the latter, besides offering prayers, would tell him to plant a crystal Buddha at the foot of the tree and await results.

Faith and confidence alike would anticipate a favourable outcome, for potassium nitrate is a powerful fertiliser.

Yours sincerely,
R. V. JONES,
8 Queen's Terrace, Aberdeen.

Rail sell-off

From the Minister for Railways and Roads

Sir, I was saddened by the quite unjustified pessimism of today's report on the rail privatisation timetable. Let me summarise where we stand.

At the moment some 40 per cent of passenger rail services are on the market for franchising. The first three franchises — Great Western, LTS Rail and South West Trains — are in the final stages of the bidding process and are due to be awarded by the end of the year.

Bidders for a further four — InterCity East Coast, Midland Mainline, Gatwick Express and Network SouthCentral — have until December 8 to lodge indicative bids. The sales of another two — Chiltern and South Eastern Trains — were launched today.

Faced with this evidence, your report's assertion that the Government may now fail to sell a single passenger franchise by April 1 is simply unsupportable. The fact is that, far from faltering, the franchising programme is gathering increasing momentum, as your correspondents should know.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WATTS,
The Department of Transport,
Great Minster House,
76 Marsham Street, SW1.
October 3.

Trial by television and on television

From Controller, Editorial Policy, BBC

Sir, There is one overwhelming concern to be addressed before television cameras are given regular access to the courts in Britain (reports and article, October 5): if justice is *seen* to be done, will justice *be* done?

But the conduct of the American media in reporting the O. J. Simpson case has less to do with the presence of television cameras and everything to do with the existence of the First Amendment (on freedom of speech). If O. J.'s trial had taken place here, cameras and all, the Contempt of Court Act would have ensured that none of the speculative and prejudicial material that Americans have seen and heard over the past year would have been broadcast.

Britain has no First Amendment. If Parliament ever decides to introduce a statutory guarantee of freedom of speech in Britain, that will be the time to ensure that it is compatible with the entitlement to a fair trial. Until then the problem will not arise, whether cameras are allowed into court or not.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD AYRE,
Controller, Editorial Policy, BBC,
Broadcasting House,
Portland Place, W1.
October 5.

From Mr Jonathan Berman

Sir, The prosecution case in a criminal trial is brought on behalf of the people. Casting light on the workings of lawyers, politicians or the monarchy may not be comfortable or in their interest, but the public is interested.

Exposing to scrutiny and demystifying the workings of these institutions is most certainly in the public interest and should ensure better lawyers, politicians and monarchs in the future.

Yours etc,
JONATHAN BERMAN (barrister),
24a Highgate West Hill, N6.
October 5.

Illegal immigrants

From Mr Roy Munden

Sir, Mr Osman Streater (letter, October 3) seeks an apology from Hong Kong for repatriating illegal immigrants who fled Vietnam to seek refuge from the economic consequences of communism in that country.

During the four decades when I was a citizen of Hong Kong I was proud of our record for accepting refugees. In terms of numbers, this was proportionate to Britain taking in the entire English-speaking population of Canada, fleeing perhaps from a Québécois coup d'état.

A similar analogy for the Vietnamese boat people, in terms of both numbers and cultural similarity, is to imagine British reactions to the sudden arrival of 500,000 Libyans fleeing the regime in that country.

But perhaps Mr Streater is not objecting to the few repatriations themselves but to the even fewer which involved force and the consequent "kicking and screaming" to which he refers.

This could not often happen in this country, of course: we have tended to bind such people hand and foot and wrap adhesive tape round their faces.

Yours faithfully,
ROY MUNDEN
(Executive Director, Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, 1981-85),
Lower Woodbrook,
Lowton, Taunton, Somerset.
October 3.

Degrees of consistency

From Dr Tony Greenfield, BSc, PhD, CStat

Sir, Professor A. I. Solomon (letter, October 4) assures us that "universities in the UK invariably involve an external examiner in the classification of degrees in order to maintain consistency".

I have today been invited to be an external examiner. The annual fee is £250, which would cover about five days for consideration of proposed examination papers followed by reading students' scripts, plus £50 for each of three day attendances. I shall decline the offer. If the university finds somebody else to do the work it will get no more than it pays for.

Infer what you will about the consistency of degrees.

Yours sincerely,
TONY GREENFIELD,
Middle Cottage,
Little Hucklow, Derbyshire.
October 4.

Under lock and key

From Mr David Robinson

Sir, With reference to how the "Chest at Greenwich" was once used as a means to preserve funds for maintaining the Royal Naval College (letter, October 4), may I suggest that it now be used to lock up the defence and heritage ministers, thus obviating the need for custodians of the keys.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ROBINSON,
72a Garthorne Road,
Forest Hill, SE23.
October 5.

COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
October 5: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited Gordonstoun School, Elgin, and were received by the Headmaster (Mr Mark Pyper).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness toured two boarding houses, Plewlands House and Bruce House, and afterwards watched demonstrations of the sea rescue and fire-fighting services run by the school.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh later attended a Reception and met members of staff, before attending a Luncheon with senior pupils given by the Headmaster in the Founder's Room, Gordonstoun House.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the new Ogston Drama Centre at the school and watched the Girls Under XV Hockey and the 1st XV Rugby Matches on the school playing fields.

Mr Robin Janvrin was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 5: The Prince Edward, Patron, this morning attended the naming ceremony of "Team Spirit of Wight", a new Ocean Youth Club training vessel, at St Katharine's Dock, London E1, followed by a Luncheon at Trinity House, London EC3.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 5: The Princess Royal arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning from New Zealand.

Mrs Andrew Feilden was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, this afternoon opened St Oswalds Resource Centre and Respite Care Facility for People with Learning Disabilities, Archdeacon Street, Gloucester, and was received by Colonel Richard Coxwell-Rogers (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire).

The Princess Royal later opened a new extension at Matson Neighbourhood Project, Matson Lane, Gloucester.

Mrs William Nunneley was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 5: The Prince of Wales this evening left Seeb Airport, Muscat, Oman, for London.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 5: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at a Gala Performance of "Carmen", in aid of the 125th Birthday Appeal of the British Red Cross Society, at the London Coliseum, London WC2.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales attends a performance of *Prince Igor* by the Kirov Opera at the Albert Hall, 7pm.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, attends an auction at Raynham Hall, Fakenham, Norfolk, at 7.25 in aid of the Norfolk Macmillan Janey Napier Appeal.

Memorial meeting

Mr Donald Pleasence
A celebration of the life of Mr Donald Pleasence was held at the Comedy Theatre, SW1, yesterday. Mr Peter Howitt presided. Mr Harold Pinter, Mr John Mortimer, QC, Mrs Lucienne Hill, Mr Barry Foster and Voytek were the speakers. Among those present were:
Mrs Pleasence (widow), Miss Angela Pleasence, Miss Lucy Pleasence, Miss Polly Pleasence, Miss Miranda Pleasence and Miss Nicola Pleasence (daughters), other members of the family and many friends.

Mr Denys N. Straker

There will be a Service of Thanksgiving to celebrate the life and work of the former Headmaster of Downsend School, Denys Straker, at St John's School Chapel, Leatherhead, Surrey at 2.30pm on Friday, November 3, 1995. A reception will be held afterwards at Downsend School, Leatherhead.

Roy Furley Pusey

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mr Roy Furley Pusey, BDS, MRCP, LRCP, Consultant Dental Surgeon, will be held in the Guy's Hospital Chapel, St Thomas Street, SE1, on Thursday, October 19, at noon.

Maggie Keswick Jencks

The Memorial Mass for Maggie Keswick Jencks will be held at 3.30pm at Westminster Cathedral, on Tuesday, October 10.

Birthdays today

Mr Jarvis Astaire, deputy chairman, Wembley Stadium, 72; Mr Richie Benaud, sports commentator, 65; Sir Alfred Blake, former director, 80; The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, 80; Mr Melvyn Bragg, broadcaster and writer, 56; Mr William Buford, former Editor, Granta, 41; Mr Richard Caborn, MP, 52; Baroness Castle of Blackburn, 85; Major-General P.A.J. Cordingley, 51; Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, 83; Lord Donaldson of Lymington, 75; Mr Tony Greig, cricketer, 49; Dr Thor Heyerdahl, author and anthropologist, 81; Mr Tommy Lawton, footballer, 76; Mr David Maland, former High Master, Manchester Grammar School, 66; Admiral Sir Derek Reffell, 67; Captain Julia Simpson, Chief Naval Officer for Women in the Royal Navy, 53; His Honour Sir William Stabb, QC, 82; Field Marshal Sir John Stanier, 70; Miss Jennifer Tanburn, research consultant, 66; Miss Helen Wills Moody, tennis champion, 90.



Lady Castle, who is 85 today

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Matteo Ricci, Jesuit priest, missionary in China, Nacerata, Italy, 1552; Nevil Maskelyne, Astronomer Royal 1765-1811, London, 1732; Sir Isaac Brock, soldier, St Peter Port, Guernsey, 1769; Louis-Philippe, King of the French 1830-48, Paris, 1773; Thomas Attwood, Chartist leader, Halesowen, Worcestershire, 1783; Jenny Lind, soprano, Stockholm, 1820; Le Corbusier (Charles-Edouard Jeanneret), architect, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, 1887; Janet Gaynor, film actress, Philadelphia, 1906; Sammy Price, jazz pianist and bandleader, Honey Grove, Texas, 1908.

DEATHS: William Tyndale, translator of the Bible, burnt at the stake, Vilvorde, Belgium, 1536; Charles Stewart Parnell, champion of home rule for Ireland, Brighton, 1891; William Henry Smith, statesman and bookseller, London, 1891; Alfred Tennyson, 1st Baron Tennyson, Poet Laureate 1850-92, Aldworth, Surrey, 1892; George Du Maurier, caricaturist and novelist, London, 1896; Mohamed Anwar El-Sadat, President of Egypt 1970-81, assassinated, Cairo, 1981.

The Mormons in Utah renounced bigamy, 1890.

Warner Brothers showed the first feature-length talking film *The Jazz Singer*, starring Al Jolson, at the Warner Theatre, New York, 1927.

Chiang Kai-shek (1887-1975) became president of China, 1928.

Luncheon

HM Government
Mr Anthony Nelson, Minister for Trade, was the host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lancaster House to mark the occasion of the COMET British/Palestinian Round Table.

Receptions

HM Government
Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Minister of State at the Scottish Office, was the host at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday in Edinburgh Castle to mark the European Conference on Young People and Tobacco.

British-American-Canadian Associates
The American Ambassador and Mrs William J. Crowe, Jr, were hosts last night at a Reception held at Winfield House in support of British-American-Canadian Associates. The guests were received by the Ambassador and Mrs Crowe, the Hon Sir Peter Ramsbotham, President of the Associates, Professor David Adams, Chairman, and Mrs Joan M.C. Baillie, Chairman of the 1995 British-American-Canadian Ball.

The Iwerne Trust
The Trustees were the hosts at a reception last night at the Carlton Club to announce their adoption of "The Titus Trust" as a new working name and to launch The Titus Appeal for further development. They continue to be financially responsible for the Staff of the Scripture Union Independent Schools' Department. For further information please contact Peter Hopkins c/o 5 Albert Square, Stockwell, London, SW8 1BU, or telephone 0181-299 1539.

Service dinner

Royal Naval Regulating Branch
Mr J.S. Evans, Chief Constable, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the officers of the Royal Naval Regulating Branch held in HMS Excellent at Portsmouth last night. Lieutenant-Commander J. Beardall, Provost Marshal, presided.

Dinners

National Liberal Club
Sir Paul Condon, Commissioner, Metropolitan Police, was the guest of honour at a dinner of the National Liberal Club held at Whitehall Place last night. The club's political and economic circle was the host. Mr Alan Beith, MP, presided. Baroness Robson of Kiddington, Judge John Arnold and Mrs Baker, and Mr Stephen W. Bonarjee, chairman of the club were among those present.

Association of Clinical Pathologists
Dr Pauline Emerson, President of the Association of Clinical Pathologists, presided at a dinner held yesterday at the Tara Hotel, W8. Sir James Black, FRS, and Professor A.J. Bellingham were present.

The Institution of Chemical Engineers
The President, Mr J.G. Collier, welcomed Past Presidents, Members of Council and their partners to the Institution's Council Dinner, which was held on Thursday, October 5, 1995, at Sudeley Castle in Gloucestershire.

Latymer Upper School, W6
The Headmaster, Mr Colin Diggory, held a Dinner in the School Library last night, following the Centenary Prize Giving Ceremony. The Guest of Honour was the Right Rev Dr Wilfred Wood, Bishop of Croydon. The Chairman of the Latymer Foundation, Dr J. Edelman, CBE, and governors, senior staff and other guests were present.


MARTIN BEDDALL

Members of the Fusions Jameen Housing Co-operative in Lewisham taking a break from their building tasks

Single parents take to self-help and build their own timber-frame homes

BY JOHN YOUNG

ON A strip of land at the leafier end of Lewisham, in southeast London, stand the timber frames of a dozen or so houses under construction. It being a fine Sunday afternoon, their future tenants have turned up with hammers and saws to put in several hours building work on the homes they will move into in a few months' time.

The Fusions Jameen Housing Co-operative is a remarkable self-help project which was started in 1988 by a group of young single parents despairing of ever being offered council accommodation. They decided the only solution was to build their own homes and approached another co-operative, Chisel, for help and advice.

In 1992 work began on the first nine houses in Forest Hill, which subsequently won a Royal Institute of British Architects award. Timber-frame construction was adopted for cost reasons and because it enabled men and women with no experience in building to produce high-quality homes.

Although the houses were larger than average, construction costs were kept down to the point where they could be rented for only about £42 a week, compared with a standard housing association rent of around £72. Grass roofs and recycled newspaper provided excellent insulation and, together with south-facing solar conservatories, ensured significant reductions in heating costs.

Members of Fusions Jameen, all black, mostly young, unemployed and living on benefits, have so far built 22 homes for themselves and their families. Their enthusiasm is infectious. The co-operative's rules are strictly enforced to deter shirkers and drop-outs: all must put in at least 40 hours a week, including 24 hours' labour and 16 hours on security duties, and must expect to have to work on the site for a minimum of two years.

The land for the latest scheme, adjoining a woodland walk and with a view across a sports ground, was provided by Lewisham council and assistance has also come the Housing Corporation, other organisations and local businesses. The co-operative is now negotiating with the council for a third site for a further 16 houses.

Tim Oshodi, co-chairman of Fusions Jameen, said local people welcomed the arrival of the amateur builders. "They have come out to offer help and ask if there is anything they can do, and we're keen to get together to get rid of vandalism. This summer kids lit several fires in the woodland."

None of the members working on the site have any previous experience but they attend training sessions. "What we're doing is building up their confidence so they feel they can do things," Mr Oshodi said. "We're building not only houses but people's belief in themselves.

"The important thing is confidence. They know that once they have built their own homes, they can do anything. We've written to everyone on the council's waiting list and we're open to everyone in housing need. But they must be committed. A lot of people are not used to hard work."

Fusions Jameen Housing Co-op Ltd has been shortlisted for the 1995 Community Enterprise Awards organised by Business in the Community and sponsored by The Times *and Touche Ross. The names of the winners will be announced later this year.*

The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists

Mr C.C.G. (Ric) Foot, OBE, was installed yesterday as the ninth Master of The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists. The ceremony took place in the Tallow Chandlers Hall, City of London, and was followed by a service of dedication at St Michael Paternoster Royal. Mr Keith Arnold, OBE, was appointed Senior Warden and Mr David Mann Junior Warden. The retiring Master, Sir Brian Jenkins, GBE, becomes Deputy Master.

Royal Institute of British Architects

Mr Owen Luder, CBE, gave his inaugural address as President of the Royal Institute of British Architects at 66 Portland Place, London, W1, on Tuesday evening. Mr Luder was President of the RIBA from 1981-83, and was elected earlier this year for a second term of office. A response was given by Sir Michael Latham.

Church news

Appointments
Canon Betty Hammond to be an Honorary Canon Emeritus of Portsmouth Cathedral.

The Rev Jenny Lowater, Assistant Director of Ordinands, diocese Portsmouth, and Hon Curate, Hook w Warsash, to be also an Honorary Canon of Portsmouth Cathedral (Portsmouth).

The Rev Penny Martin, Curate, united benefice of Sherburn w Pittington, in plurality w Shadforth, to be the incumbent of the plurality (Durham).

Canon John Maybury to be an Honorary Canon Emeritus of Portsmouth Cathedral.

The Rev Kenneth Potter, Assistant Curate (NSM), Ryton w Hedgefield (Durham), to be Priest-in-charge, (NSM), united benefice of Harby w Thorney and North and South Clifton, covering the churches of Harby w Swinethorpe, All Saints; North and South Clifton, St George and Thorney w Wigsley, St Helen (Southwell).

The Rev Duncan Reed, Priest-in-charge, Whickham, to be Rector, Whickham (Durham).

The Rev April Richards, Assistant Curate (NSM), All Saints, East Meon w St John, Langrish and Chaplain in the Portsmouth Hospitals Chaplaincy Team, to be Priest-in-charge, St Matthew, Blackmoor (Portsmouth).

The Rev Frank Robinson, Vicar, St John, Yeadon (Bradford), to be Priest-in-charge, St James, Rounds Green (Birmingham).

The Rev Ivan Saloniia, Assistant Curate, Church of the Holy Spirit, Kidbrooke, to be Team Vicar, Church of the Holy Spirit, Kidbrooke (Southwark).

The Rev David Sherratt, Assistant Curate, St John on Bethnal Green, to be Assistant Curate, St James, West Hampstead and St Mary, Kilburn (London).

The Rev Heather Turner, Chaplain among the Deaf and Deaf/Blind in the diocese of Rochester, to be also Priest-in-charge, Wrotham, same diocese.

The Rev Peter Whittingham, Curate, Holy Cross Church, Airedale w Fryston, to be Vicar, St Anne, Wrenthorpe (Wakefield).

Resignations and retirements
The Rev Ann Bucknall, Assistant Curate, St James, Handsworth (Birmingham), to retire October 31.

The Rev Graham Gregory, Vicar, Wollaton Park, St Mary (Southwell), retired September 30.

The Rev Meg Guillebaud, Curate, Rodbourne Cheney (Bristol), to resign October 31.

Tylers' and Bricklayers' Company

The following have been installed officers of the Tylers' and Bricklayers' Company for the ensuing year:
Master, Mr W.G.H. Fuller; Upper Warden, Mr B.G. Holliday; Renter Warden, Mr G.E.N. Mason-Elliott.

Feltmakers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Feltmakers' Company for the ensuing year:
Master, Captain P. Cobb, RN; Upper Warden, Mr N.J. Mellstrom; Renter Warden, Mr P.A. Grant; Third Warden, His Honour Keith Devlin; Fourth Warden, Commander I.R. Wellesley-Harding.

Baptism

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Cole was baptised Henry Robert Donoghue, by Father Peter Newby, at St Osmond's Church, Barnes, on October 1, 1995.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.J. Berry and Miss J.I. Bagnall
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mrs B. Berry, of Gozo, Malta and the late Mr J.G. Berry, and Jane, elder daughter of Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs A.J.C. Bagnall, of Stanmore, Middlesex.

Mr A.M. Clementson and Miss A.A. Prichard
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of the late Mr John Clementson and of Mrs Lillias Clementson, of West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, and Alexandra, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Mathew Prichard, of Pwllywrach, Cowbridge, South Glamorgan.

Lord Durham and Miss C. FitzGerald
The engagement is announced between Ned, only son of Lord and Lady Lambton, and Catherine, eldest daughter of the Knight of Glin and Madam FitzGerald.

Mr A. Gordon and Ms A. Carpenter
The engagement is announced between Arthur, eldest son of the late Mr Arthur Gordon and of Mrs Sarah Gordon, of Glasgow, Scotland, and Ailsa, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs James Grant Carpenter, of Lyme Regis, Dorset.

Mr P.W. Miles and Miss A.S. Fitzgibbons
The engagement is announced between Patrick, younger son of Sir Peter and Lady Miles, of Southrop, Gloucestershire, and Allegra, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Harry Fitzgibbons, of Phillimore Gardens, London, W8.

Captain H.C. Morgan and Miss J.A. Evans
The engagement is announced between Captain Hewlan Morgan, Royal Artillery, elder son of Mr E.C. Morgan and Mrs I.A. Wright, of Brighton, Sussex, and Juliet, only daughter of Captain R.G. Evans, LVO, Royal Navy, and Mrs Evans, of Lympsham, Somerset.

Mr R.F. Purcell and Miss M.K. Deleersnijder
The engagement is announced between Rory, son of Mr and Mrs Charles J. Purcell, and Kristien, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Deleersnijder.

Mr A.R.B. Shaw and Miss M.L. Cubitt
The engagement is announced between Alexander, only son of the late Mr Peter Shaw, of Nairobi, Kenya, and of Mrs Donald Factor, of London, and Miranda, daughter of Mr Barrington Cubitt, of Kintbury, Berkshire, and Mrs Martin Dean, of Usk, Gwent.

Mr S. Thompson and Miss Z. Barlow
Chris and Sally Barlow, of East Molesey, Surrey, are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Zoey Colette, to Simon Christian, eldest child of Brian and Anne Thompson, of Worcester.

Hurstpierpoint College

St Etheldreda (Old Boys' Day) is on Sunday, October 15. The Sung Eucharist at 11am will be dedicated to the late Canon Ronald Howard (Headmaster 1945-1964), who died earlier this year. The preacher will be Mr Reg Ruddock. The Headmaster, Mr Stephen Meek, will be delighted to meet Old Boys and friends of the College after the service.

Oxford High School GPDST

Oxford High School is celebrating 120 years of distinguished education for women with Anniversary Lectures, Exhibitions and Music. A Reunion is planned for November 4. Old Girls are invited to contact the school for details.

Appointments

Mr George Bridges to be the Prime Minister's Assistant Political Secretary.

Mrs Sheila Elizabeth Driver to be a Provincial Stipendiary Magistrate for the South Yorkshire Commission Area, based at Sheffield Magistrates' Court, from October 16.

Mr Peter Henry Francis Jones to be a Provincial Stipendiary Magistrate for the South Yorkshire Commission Area, based at Doncaster Magistrates' Court, from October 30.

BMDS: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Peter said to them, 'I need not tell you that a Jew is forbidden by his religion to visit or associate with anyone of another race. Yet God has shown me clearly that I must not call anyone profane or unclean.
Acts 10 : 28 (REB).

BIRTHS

BERTLIN - On 2nd October 1995, to Piers and Alison (née Normand), a son, Charles William Ashley.

BRUNTON - On October 4th 1995 at Northampton, to Jennifer (née Aiken) and Mark, a son, Philip Mark.

CALLAGHAN - On 21st September 1995 at the Western Isles Hospital, to Jane (née Lewis) and Ian, a son, Alexander William George Lewis, a brother for Charles.

CHICHESTER - On October 3rd, to Caroline and George, a daughter, Iona Madeline, a sister to Tessa, Hugh and Camilla. Thanks to God for four wonderful children.

ELLISON - On October 2nd 1995, to Kate and Mark, a son, Rollo, a brother for Flora, Maudie and Ned.

FRESSON - On October 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Serena and Michael, a daughter, Beatrice Elizabeth, a sister for Alice and George.

GRIMWADE - On September 30th at The Portland Hospital, to Julia (née Izard) and John, a daughter, Antonia Louise Girling.

LERWILL - On October 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Nicola (née Keddie) and Robert, a daughter, Anna.

MARRURA - On 20th September 1995, to Marion (née March) and Robert, a daughter, Katherine Anna Quarles.

MEYNELL - On 4th October 1995, at the Rode Wing, Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, to Joanna and Luke, a daughter.

BIRTHS

MORGAN - On September 25th 1995, to Georgina (née Benger) and Andrew, a son, Harrington Leopold Benger.

NAYLOR - On October 5th, to Harriet and James, a son, Henry James Huntley.

RICHMAN - On October 4th at The Portland Hospital, to Lucinda and Robert, a precious daughter, Chloe Savannah, first-born.

SALE - On September 30th, to Pippa (née Trethowan) and Dick, a son, Oliver.

ZIM - On September 28th 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Edie (née Hong) and Michael, a handsome son, Maximilian Julius who weighed eight lbs four oz.

MARRIAGES

VIVIAN-NEAL-DAVIDGE - On 30th September at Pitminster, Ralph Vivian-Neal to Wendy Davidge.

DEATHS

BOYLE - On 4th October, very peacefully at Hildenborough (formerly of Buxford), Hamilton, aged 86. Much loved husband of the late Muriel and father of Timothy, Tony and John, grandfather and brother. Funeral Service at St John's Church, Hildenborough, Kent, on Thursday 12th October at 2 pm, followed by cremation at Tunbridge Wells. Family flowers only but donations, if wished, to British Diabetic Association c/o Ord-Hume Funeral Services, 33A Quarry Hill Road, Tonbridge. tel: (01732) 365746.

DEATHS

BALL - On 4th October 1995 in Salisbury, Ronald Herbert Ball aged 69. Much loved father and grandfather. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Thursday 12th October at 1 pm. No flowers, please.

BRAY - Christopher Andre. At home on 3rd October, 1995, beloved husband of Penelope; father of Tim, Lucy and Jeremy; grandfather of Edward, Hetty and William; Anna, Sarah and Kate; Alice, Emily and Susannah. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held on Tuesday, 10th October at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only; donations if desired to The Britten Pears School for Advanced Musical Studies, Aldeburgh Foundation, High Street, Aldeburgh, Suffolk IP15 5AX.

BUTTERWORTH - Major (Retd) Hartley, (late North Staffordshire Regiment), aged 87, peacefully at Fareham Hospital on 28th September 1995. Husband of the late Gladys Butterworth (née Dryden). Dearly loved father of Nigel and Gillian, grandfather of Fiona, Julian, Philip, Kate, Nicola and Beth and great-grandfather of Sasha. Private family cremation at his own request. Donations if desired to: The Staffordshire Regiment Benevolent Fund, RHQ The Staffordshire Regiment, Whittington Barracks, Lichfield, Staffs WS14 9PY.

DEATHS

CALVERT - Geoffrey Ernest Herbert peacefully on October 4th 1995 aged 85 years. Much loved father of Tony, Mary and Anne. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Funtington, near Chichester, on Wednesday 11th October at 3.15 pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but if desired donations for The British Heart Foundation to F.A. Holland & Son, 3 Jubilee Road, Chichester. tel: (01243) 782968.

COLLINS - (née Brooke) on 30th September 1995 peacefully at Joseph Weld Hospice, Dorchester. Ada Florence, aged 95 years of Bridport, Dorset. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Bridport on Wednesday, 11th October at 2 pm. Flowers or donations for Joseph Weld Hospice c/o A.J. Walsh & Sons, 91 East Street, Bridport, Dorset. Flowers by 10.30 am please.

CRUICKSHANK - On October 2nd 1995, peacefully at home in Marian Harborough, Leslie George Cruickshank, L.D.S. Funeral Service at Glroes Crematorium, Leicester, on Thursday October 12th at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired for Church of England Childrens' Society to J. Stamp & Sons Funeral Directors, Market Harborough, Leics. LE16 8AN. tel: (01858) 462204.

DAW - On October 4th peacefully Beryl Lister Daw of Henley-on-Thames aged 88 and active until the end. Much loved mother of Jennifer and Nigel. Service at St Mary the Virgin at Fawley on October 11th at 12 noon. Family flowers only, if desired donations to N.S.P.C.C.

DEATHS

DE LUCIO-MEYER - J.J. died peacefully on 17th September. Funeral will be held at 11.30 am at the St Marylebone Crematorium, East End Road, N2, on Thursday 12th October.

DONALD - Miles, on October 3rd 1995, peacefully at home. Much loved husband of Anabel, father of Dominick and St John, brother of Matise. Funeral private. No flowers by request.

DOW - On October 5th peacefully at Bognor Regis, David Nicoll Dow C.A., F.C.M.A., former Director of the Lazard Group and other public companies. Father of Jan and Nicoll, grandfather of Alexander and Georgina. All enquiries to "Seagull".

GRAY - Dr. Margaret Eleanor Rosamund MD (née Bulmer) on October 5th 1995 in her 90th year. Much loved mother of Dominic and Teresa and grandmother to Jessica, Joshua, Jane and Juliette. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Putney Bridge, on Thursday 12th October at 3 pm followed by cremation at Putney Vale. Family flowers only please. Donations in her memory to All Saints Restoration Trust c/o Robert Ayling Funeral Services, 25 South Road, Guildford GU2 6NY.

GUNN - Peter, beloved husband of Diana, died in France on October 4th.

HALES - Lt. Col. Jack Hales DSO at home on October 2nd. Husband to Minker and father of Amanda (Campbell), Mark, Charles and Julia (de Courcy Bryant). Family ceremony only.

DEATHS

KINGHAM - Nicholas James St. John on September 28th suddenly in Glen Lyon, so much loved husband of Clare, very special stepfather to Lavinia and Petrina, adored by his dogs Smutt, Cheol and Pasty. Church Service at St Mary's Church, Bitterwell, Leicestershire, on Thursday October 12th at 11am followed by private burial. Flowers or donations to Animal Health Trust, Wise and Spirit Trade Benevolent Society or Game Conservancy Trust c/o W.G. Goodman & Son, 11 Bank Street, Lutterworth, LE17 4AG. tel: (01455) 552380.

MACRAE - Josephine Melanie, daughter of Rev. and Mrs Donald Flett at Dereham, died at home in Larwick after a courageous battle with cancer. A devoted and proud mother to Jenny, Helen and Sandy and a great loss to her husband John Duart MacRae of Kesgord. The funeral will be at the Adam Clarke Methodist Church, Lerwick, on 9th October at 12.30 pm. Enquiries to Geodies Funeral Directors Ltd., (01595) 695791.

McGINNIS - On 4th October, peacefully after a short illness. Abigail aged 94. Sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral Service to be held at St Augustines Church, Tunbridge Wells on Wednesday 18th October at 10.30 am.

DEATHS

NEWELL - On 3rd October 1995 at Winton Nursing Home, Nether Wallop, Hampshire, Lt. Col. John Alfred Edmund, DSO, aged 81. Beloved father of Charlotte and Peter, stepfather of John and adored grandpa of Lucilla, Charles, Ben, Tim, Sarah and Elizabeth. Sincere thanks to all staff at Winton. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Nether Wallop on Tuesday 10th October at 11.30 am. Flowers, or donations if desired, to RNLI c/o Hiscrow & Sons, 6A Bridge Street, Andover, SP10 1BH.

RICHARDS - On 4th October 1995 peacefully at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, Paul Westmacott Richards C.B.E., Sc.D., Emeritus Professor of Botany, University of Wales, Bangor, in his 87th year. Dearly loved husband of Anne (née Hodgson), father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral for family and close friends. memorial meeting later. Family flowers only. Donations to Paul Richards Korup Fund, World Wildlife Fund, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1XR.

SPEERS - Daphne peacefully on 3rd October at home at Coombe Bissett. Much loved wife of John and mother of Sarah and Simon. Memorial Service at St Michael and All Angels, Coombe Bissett at 3pm on Wednesday 11th October preceded by private cremation at Salisbury Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations to Salisbury Hospice Care Trust or Cancer Relief MacMillan Fund would be appreciated c/o I.N. Newman Ltd., Funeral Directors, 85 Winchester Street, Salisbury, Wilts. (tel: 01722 413136).

DEATHS

SYKES - On October 2nd 1995 peacefully in Poole Hospital, Cyril aged 80 years, beloved husband of Sheila and formerly of Leeds. Enquiries to Tapper Funeral Service, tel: (01202) 673164.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

CLAY - G.I. (Peter). The Thanksgiving Service will take place at Fownhope Church, near Hereford, on Tuesday 24th October at 2.30 pm.

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

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OBITUARIES

PROFESSOR ALFRED BEESTON



Professor Alfred Beeston, Laudian Professor of Arabic at Oxford University, 1955-79, died on September 29 aged 84. He was born on February 23, 1911.

IT WAS Alfred Beeston's great achievement as Laudian Professor at Oxford to enlarge the Arabic syllabus as it was being taught when he first arrived there. Not only did he introduce modern authors into what had until then been a predominantly medieval course, but he also taught them with great zest. Those who admired his immense learning can only be sorry that he did not publish more. His extant works on Arabic language and literature and his translations of Arabic texts all give evidence of his meticulously thorough scholarship.

Alfred Felix Landon Beeston was the only son of Herbert Arthur Beeston and Edith Mary Landon. After a promising career at Westminster School, where he was elected King's Scholar in 1925, in 1929 he won a Westminster scholarship to Christ Church, Oxford, to read Classics. But the great interest of his life, since his early years at school, had been South Arabian epigraphy and in 1931, after Honour Moderations, he began to read Arabic and Persian under D. S. Margoliouth.

Having graduated with a First and the James Mew Scholarship in Arabic in 1933, he went on to take his DPhil and in 1935 was appointed assistant in the Department of Oriental Books at the Bodleian, where he remained until he joined the Intelligence Corps on the outbreak of war. Returning to Bodley in 1946, he became Sub-Librarian and Keeper of Oriental Books, and in this office he displayed his immense talent for hard and accurate work, to which Part III of the *Catalogue of the Persian, Turkish, Hindustani and Pushtu Manuscripts in the Bodleian* bears witness.

Freddie, as he was normally known, also managed to find time for his South Arabian studies and to complete his linguistic equipment. At a meeting of the Oriental Book Selection Committee, when he was seen to note down in Chinese the names of two or three Chinese books whose purchase had been suggested, somebody remarked, "I didn't know you included Chinese among your accomplishments." Freddie's reply was, "Oh, but they're all well-known books."

His command of European languages and literatures was equally profound: his knowledge of Welsh enabled him to recommend the *Mabinogion* as suitable background reading for graduate students working on early Arabic literature (though he never actually told them that he read the work in the original); his lectures on Arabic poetry might bring in Anglo-Saxon and the Norse Sagas in one week and Euripides and Dante in the next; in 1988 he surprised his hosts at a conference in Budapest by his fluent Hungarian; and his light reading for new year 1994 was a collection of modern German short stories.

His talent served him well when he was elected to the Laudian Chair in 1955. To succeed Sir Hamilton Gibb was a difficult assignment and not a few Orientalists' eyebrows had been raised at the choice of "a South Arabian epigraphist". In fact his election should not have been a surprise. Articles such as *al-Idrisi's Account of the British Isles* had shown that he was an outstanding, if then not well-known, Arabist, with wide interests in language and literature.

When he took up the Laudian chair, the Arabic syllabus in Oxford reached only as far as 1400, and it was one of his achievements not just to introduce modern Arabic into the syllabus but to see that it flourished. It took some while to persuade the university to establish the necessary post, and in the meantime he taught such modern authors as Taha Hysain and Tawfiq al-Hakim with the same verve and care that he showed in his lectures on earlier authors. He also played a major role in ensuring that the Faculty of Oriental Studies was housed together for the first time with the opening of the Oriental Institute in 1961.

He proved himself an inspiring teacher and manifested another side of his character too: his great kindness and generosity, from which all undergraduates benefited, regardless of their ability. He was as ready to give them his time, advice and encouragement throughout and after their university careers as he was to help them over their college wall in the small hours after a Schools' dinner.

He was a convivial soul, at his best with small groups of students and colleagues, and Orientalist congresses will not be the same without Freddie Beeston's cheerful, unmelodious laugh and his great, hacking cough. To those who knew him well his conviviality and kindness were all the more touching because they were achieved despite his considerable personal shyness.

His learning was lightly worn, particularly with his students, to whom he was devoted, just as they were to him. They were the recipients of some of his best work, on Tanukhi, Ibn Khaldun and the Arab grammarians, for example. These were authors on whom he worked for their own sakes, without any thought of publication. Occasionally he was persuaded to turn his lectures into a book. Two of his finest pieces, his translation of al-Baidawi's *Commentary on Sura 12 of the Qur'an* (1963) and his edition and translation of the *Epistle on the Singing Girls* by al-Jahiz (1980), had such an origin.

He had lately been coaxed to return to the completion of an edition and translation of another work by al-Jahiz, the *Epistle on the Turks*, on which he had last lectured some twenty years ago; and there is some hope that this will be published posthumously. Sadly, this is not the case with his work on his favourite authors, the pre-Islamic poets. His translation of the *Mufallaqa of Labid*, published in the *Journal of Arabic Literature* in 1976, and a few other articles show how much we have lost in this field.

The meticulous scholarship was often tinged with impishness. An undergraduate arriving at the Examination Schools to take a paper on South Arabian was presented by Freddie with a stone from the Ashmolean. "There's your unseen — much clearer than a photograph!"

Of his books on language, he was probably proudest of *A Descriptive Grammar of Epigraphic South Arabian* (1962), *The Arabic Language Today* (1970), and *A Sabaic Grammar* (1980), which he himself translated into Arabic. In 1965 he was elected a Fellow of the British Academy.

He retired from the Laudian chair in 1979 but remained a well-known figure in Oxford, not least as Dean of Degrees for St John's. He remained active as a scholar to the end of his life, writing a steady series of illuminating articles and reviews, and corresponding with scholars in many countries. He also continued to travel to both parts of Yemen and to Oman in pursuit of his South Arabian studies.

He received many academic honours in later life, which never came to light unless disclosed by a third party. In his retirement old friendships flourished as never before, and those who knew him will look back on this period with particular gratitude. The esteem in which he was held resulted in two *Festschrifts*, *Sayhadica* from his colleagues in South Arabian studies (1987), and *Arabicus Felix Luminosus Britannicus* (1991), an eightieth birthday celebration from some of his colleagues and pupils in Arabic and Semitic studies. A third one has been planned for those who were unable to contribute to the first two. He was greatly touched by these, but what gave him most pleasure was his Emeritus Fellowship at St John's. The college and its chapel were the focal points of his life for almost forty years, and there can have been no place more fitting for him to collapse and die than at the college gates.

He was devoid of vanity and, for all his unconventionality, a man of deep Christian faith. He was outstandingly loyal, and, not least, a kind godfather to the children of colleagues and students.

He never married; his two loves were Oriental scholarship and Oxford. He served both devotedly. In 1959 after a long drive to a remote, dusty village in the Hadramawt he breathlessly introduced himself to someone who was later to become one of his pupils as "Beeston, Arabic, Oxford". It is hard to think of a neater or more apt description.

IDA CARROLL



Ida Carroll, OBE, former Dean of Management of the Royal Northern College of Music, died in Manchester on September 9 aged 89. She was born in West Didsbury on December 1, 1905.

AS THE first Dean of Management of the newly created Royal Northern College of Music in 1972, Ida Carroll played a major role in establishing the fledgeling conservatoire at the forefront of musical education. With 50 years' experience as student, secretary, and later Principal, of the Northern School of Music behind her, Carroll was well placed to ensure that the standards and philosophy she had nurtured there were brought to bear upon an institution which could easily have become little more than a renamed Royal Manchester College of Music. She had a forceful and persuasive personality that sought only excellence; an excellence which the RNCM has undeniably achieved in its 23 years of existence.

Ida Gertrude Carroll was the daughter of a distinguished musician, Walter Carroll, who on October 3, 1893 — more than a hundred years before Ida's death — delivered the first lecture at Sir Charles Hallé's Royal Manchester College of Music. Her father was her first piano teacher and he wrote various studies for her, some of which were in due course published, and at least one of which, *Tunes for Ida*, survives in its original 1912 manuscript.

Her education at Manchester High School for Girls was cut short by an attack of peritonitis. Nevertheless, in 1922, at the age of 16, Carroll resumed her piano studies, entering the Matthay School in Manchester, founded by Hilda Collens in 1920.

She quickly proved herself a valuable asset to the school and was appointed secretary. But although after her graduation she did play a couple of professional concerts, she never took to the performing circuit. Her interest remained firmly rooted in musical education.

In due course the Matthay School became the Northern School of Music and Carroll accepted a professorship. When Hilda Collens died in 1956, Carroll was made acting Principal, an appointment which was to become substantive in 1958.

The mission to establish a leading northern conservatoire was a precarious one and Carroll played a central role in it. She laid the foundations of what has since been recognised as a leading international centre of musical excellence. Once the RNCM came into being in 1972 under its Principal, Sir John Manduell, Carroll was appointed Dean of Management, retiring four years later in 1976. In that same year she was also president of the Incorporated Society of Musicians.

While still a student at the Matthay School, Carroll had begun playing the double bass to fill a gap in her school orchestra. She wrote a number of works for the instrument which still remain popular today and later she established the Ida Carroll Double Bass Award Trust to raise the instrument's profile.

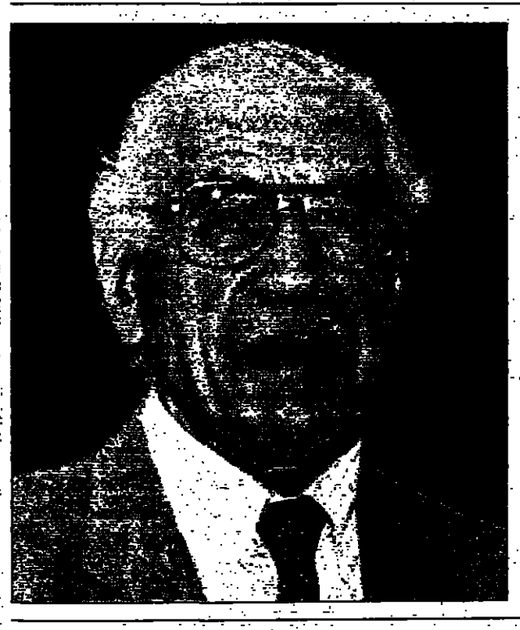
This love of the double bass continued to show after retirement as she toured the country lecturing on the wonders of the instrument as well as talking about her father's work.

Several of her writings — particularly on aural training and sight singing —were published and it was largely due to her that, far from being dull, the Saturday morning aural training class for juniors at the RNCM was alive with enthusiasm.

Like her sister, Elsa, who was appointed MBE for her services to the Girl Guides movement, Ida's contribution to society was recognised by an OBE in 1964. Further honours were to follow as Carroll became increasingly more involved with musical organisation. She was a council member of the Musicians' Benevolent Fund and contributed in various ways to a number of organisations, including Live Music Now, the Northern Chamber Orchestra, the European String Teachers' Association, the Soroptimists and the Royal Society of Arts.

Ida Carroll never married, although she nursed her longtime *amour*, Geoffrey Griffiths, a former bursar at the Northern School of Music, through Parkinson's disease until he died in 1993.

DR GERALD SWYER



Dr Gerald Swyer, Consultant Endocrinologist, University College Hospital, London, 1951-78, died on September 19 aged 77. He was born in Bognor, Sussex, on November 17, 1917.

GERALD SWYER was an eminent British physician who made outstanding contributions in the field of endocrinology and in particular in the area of women's health. His extensive research into the clinical evaluation and the use of progestogenic hormones pioneered the development of the contraceptive pill in the 1950s.

As part of this work he established the "Swyer-Greenblat delay of menses test", a test which determines the relative potency of oral progestogens. And a clinical syndrome (XY gonadal dyagenesis) is known — more in the US than in the UK — as Swyer's Syndrome. Later research, in collaboration with colleagues, was centred on the detection and treatment of defective ovulation. As recognition of these and of his other contributions to gynaecological endocrinology Swyer was elected a Fellow *ad eundem* of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists in 1975.

Gerald Isaac Macdonald Swyer was educated at St Paul's School and at St John's College, Oxford, graduating in 1939. As senior Demy at Magdalen in 1940-41 he was Demonstrator in Anatomy and conducted research work in the laboratory of Dr Solly (later Lord) Zuckerman, on the growth of the prostate gland, which was the subject of his DPhil thesis in 1943. Later he was Rockefeller Medical Student at University of California, 1941-43, before returning to Oxford to the Radcliffe Infirmary.

In 1947 Swyer was invited to University College Hospital Medical School, London, as endocrinologist to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. He established the fertility clinic (at that time only the third in London) and the endocrine clinic, both of which he directed for the next 31 years until he retired in 1978. He became the consultant endocrinologist there in 1951.

He jokingly told friends that some of his colleagues had referred to the fertility clinic as "the futility clinic". In fact, Swyer's early work in the field of reproductive medicine was at the forefront of development, and large numbers of mothers owe the existence of their children to him.

Offices held by Swyer over the years included chairman of the Society for the Study of Fertility; president of the Section of Endocrinology, Royal Society of Medicine; secretary-general, International Federation of Fertility Societies; and scientific adviser to the World Health Organisation.

Swyer was a prolific writer and author of some 200 publications, mostly in the field of reproductive medicine. He also contributed to many radio and television programmes. From 1982 to 1986 he served on the council of the London Borough of Camden.

From 1978 to 1993 he was the first chairman of the internationally recognised British charity, Women's Health Concern (WHC), and he made regular contributions to its postgraduate symposia and courses for doctors and nurses as well as being the medical editor of WHC publications. In helping many thousands of women with their gynaecological and hormonal conditions, especially the menopause and the proper use of hormone replacement therapy (HRT), Swyer's extensive experience and knowledge continued to provide both them and their doctors with hard scientific fact.

He was an extraordinarily modest man who sought no personal fame and — as so often happens — he received no national recognition. Commenting on a WHC video made in 1994 entitled *Menopause and HRT — The Facts*, he said: "Hopefully, this will meet the requirements of many women who remain less well informed on this important subject."

Swyer enjoyed many leisure interests. He was a keen dinghy sailor and a builder and racer of model yachts. He played golf, painted, tinted glass objects, made musical instruments and loved music. His work and family holidays took him on extensive travel at home and abroad.

Gerald Swyer is survived by his wife, Irene (née Nash) whom he married in 1945, and by a son and daughter.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DUWENDAG Britta Helene. Anyone having knowledge of her whereabouts or whether she is alive please tel 0117 9661718

THE September winner of the FAI Home Security Alarm & Fire Protection system is Miss Maxwell from Warwickshire.

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FUNERAL OF M. ZOLA
SPEECHES AT THE GRAVE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

PARIS, Oct 5

In spite of the scuffles between the police and batches of the immense crowd which filled the streets, to-day's funeral ceremony has passed off with no untoward incident. The police arrangements were so remarkably complete that they seemed almost exaggerated. But in the vast crowds which surged all about the neighbourhood of the Rue de Bruxelles there were so many elements of disorder that M. Lépine is to be congratulated on having taken such precautions.

Friends of the dead novelist, including M. Alfred Dreyfus, had passed the night by the side of his coffin. At 11 o'clock the coffin was carried down to the vestibule of the Rue de Bruxelles house, where it reposed in state amid silver-fringed black draperies just beneath a large painting of "Truth", a half-nude figure issuing triumphant from the well while a monk and a musketeer seek in vain to fling her back into the darkness. Only the intimate friends of M. Zola and his family and a few journalists were allowed to pass through the double line of police and municipal guards and to enter the vestibule.

M. Anatole France, the spokesman for Zola's friends, was the third and last speaker. He said:—

"Not by complaints and lamentations is it becoming to celebrate those who leave a grand memory, but by manly eulogiums and by a sincere picture of their work and life. Zola's literary work is immense. When it was seen to rise stone by stone its grandeur was measured with surprise. People admired, were amazed, praised and blamed. Praise and blame were equally vehement. Invectives and apologies were mingled. The work went on, ever growing. Now that its colossal form is revealed the spirit animating it is recognized.

"It is a spirit of kindliness. Zola was kindly. He had the candour and sincerity of great souls. He was profoundly moral. He has depicted vice with a rough and vigorous hand. His apparent pessimism, a sombre humour diffused over more than one of his pages, ill conceals a real optimism, a persistent faith in the progress of intelligence and justice. In his romances, he attacks with vigorous hatred an idle, frivolous society, a base and noxious aristocracy. He combated the evil of the time — the power of money. A democrat, he never flattered the people, but endeavoured to show them the slavery of ignorance and the dangers of alcohol, which delivers them up defenceless to all oppressions, poverty and disgrace.

"He combated social evil wherever he found it. Such were his hatreds. In his latest books he showed his fervent love of mankind. He wished to see on the earth a constantly-increasing number of men destined to happiness. He trusted in thought, in science.

"He expected from the new force, machinery, the progressive enfranchisement of laborious humanity. His work is comparable only in greatness with that of Tolstoi. Their works are two vast ideal cities. Both are generous and pacific, but Tolstoi's is the city of resignation, Zola's the city of labour . . ."

ON THIS DAY
October 6, 1902

The passion that surrounded "L'Affaire Dreyfus" and caused Emile Zola to assail the Government in his celebrated "J'accuse" is reflected in the long valediction by Anatole France, a fellow writer, at Zola's funeral.

NEWS

Tebbit praises Blair over BT deal

■ Lord Tebbit embarrassed the Government yesterday by praising Tony Blair's foresight as the Labour leader sealed a pact allowing British Telecom to wire up Britain.

The former Conservative chairman, now a BT director, countered government claims that Mr Blair had jumped the gun by telling his party conference of plans to let BT link every school, hospital and library to the information superhighway. He also praised Mr Blair's conference speech ..... **Page 1**

Britain to bring back Bosnia troops

■ Britain will soon bring home from Bosnia-Herzegovina 3,300 troops of 24 Airmobile Brigade. Some 700 soldiers will be left behind to protect the brigade's equipment, which will be kept in readiness at the base at Ploce in Croatia. Britain's military presence will be cut to about 5,000..... **Pages 1, 15**

Nobel for Heaney

Seamus Heaney, the Irish poet, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. Mr Heaney, 56, was on holiday in Greece when the $1 million prize was announced, and it took several hours to find him..... **Pages 1, 5, 20, 21**

Blow to immigrants

Homeless unemployed immigrants from other European countries do not have to be housed by local authorities in Britain, the High Court ruled in a test case..... **Page 1**

Apology sought

The Northern Ireland peace process could be assisted by a formal British apology for the Irish famine of 150 years ago, it was suggested..... **Page 2**

More breath tests

Breath tests will be given to every driver involved in an accident attended by police under tough new regulations introduced by Scotland Yard..... **Page 3**

Chechens regroup

About 6,000 Chechen separatists are reported to be ready for battle, with tanks and armoured vehicles, after regrouping during peace talks..... **Page 15**

Simpson deal

One of O. J. Simpson's lawyers discussed a deal involving a guilty plea by Mr Simpson and a five-year jail term for one of his friends, a lawyer said..... **Page 14**

Nigeria stands firm

The Nigerian military Government is prepared to risk economic sanctions and suspension from the Commonwealth rather than grant further concessions on political detainees..... **Page 16**

Knesset divided

Israeli deputies were deeply split over ratifying the Washington deal to extend Arab self-rule. Yitzhak Rabin said that the Knesset vote would be a motion of confidence..... **Page 13**

Cities at risk

Water levels below some of Britain's cities are rising twice as fast as forecast, increasing the risk of flooding and damage to buildings, tunnels and underground railway networks..... **Page 12**

Lost in space

A British-built satellite made for the Chilean air force to monitor the ozone layer is useless after failing to separate from a Ukrainian space craft..... **Page 6**

Round of applause

Pubs were praised by Alisdair Aird, editor of the *Good Pub Guide*, for serving a decent glass of wine at last, after years of second-rate plonk..... **Page 9**

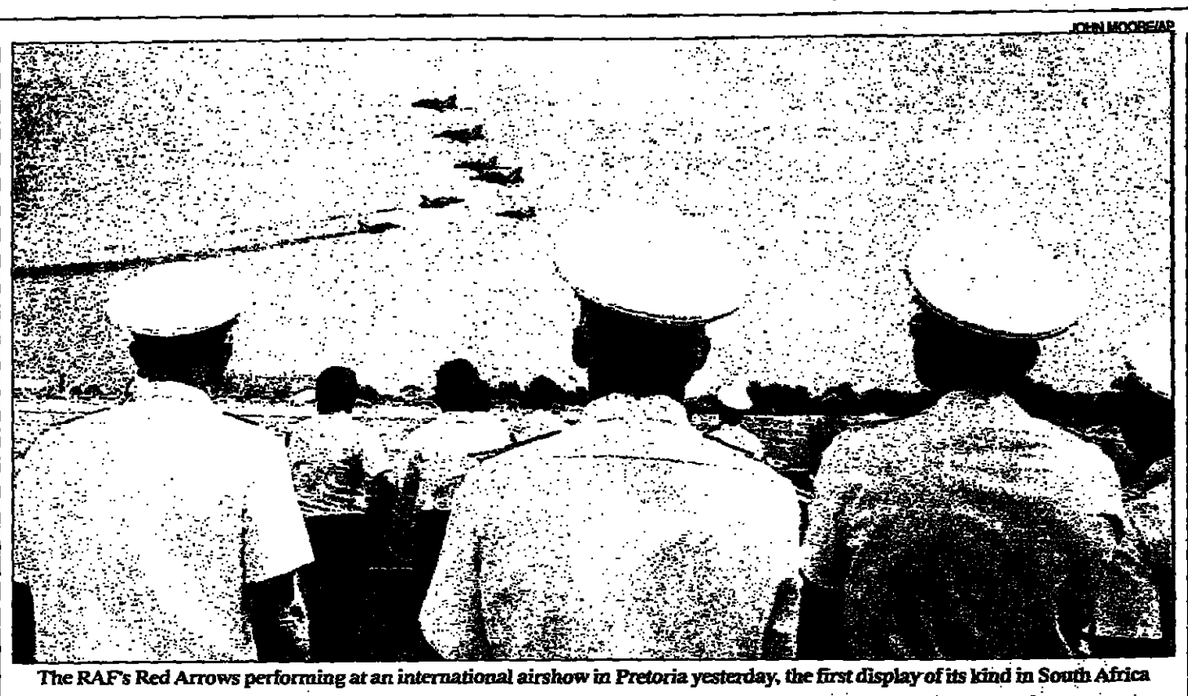
Roos go on the Pill

Australian scientists are hoping to put millions of kangaroos on the Pill to reduce their numbers without resorting to guns, traps or poisons..... **Page 13**

Bullseye barks up the right tree

■ Bullseye, a black-and-white mongrel, was rescued from a shelter for strays in Newcastle upon Tyne and taken to John Paul Getty II's estate in Buckinghamshire. Last week Bullseye was detained at the site of a break-in and subsequently led police to a nearby house where a man was arrested in connection with a jewellery theft..... **Pages 8, 21**

JOHN MOORE/AP



The RAF's Red Arrows performing at an international airshow in Pretoria yesterday, the first display of its kind in South Africa

BUSINESS

Fisons: Rhone Poulenc Rorer, the Franco-American company bidding for Fisons, launched a raid on the British pharmaceutical company which netted it a stake of 17 per cent..... **Page 25**

Natwest: NatWest will today announce the formation of a worldwide staff council far exceeding the requirements of the European Union directive..... **Page 25**

Amstrad: Amstrad, Alan Sugar's consumer electronics group, is planning a big purchase after returning to profit..... **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 0.3 points to close at 3544.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 85.2 to 85.0 after a rise from $1.5817 to $1.5825 but a fall from DM2.2718 to DM2.2633..... **Page 28**

SPORT

Football: Stoke City, who knocked out Chelsea, were drawn at home to Newcastle in the Coca-Cola Cup third round. York, conquerors of Manchester United, are away to Queens Park Rangers..... **Page 48**

Rugby league: Two Tongans, Jim Dymock and John Hopoate, make their international debuts for Australia against England at Wembley tomorrow..... **Page 48**

Golf: Colin Montgomerie withdrew from the Mercedes German Masters with a wrist injury after a first round of 76, 12 strokes behind the leaders..... **Page 48**

Cricket: Yorkshire have appointed David Byas captain in succession to Martyn Moxon. Michael Bevan, the Australia batsman, will be vice-captain..... **Page 44**

Pop on Friday: David Sinclair on new albums by Simply Red and k.d. lang; Caitlin Moran on the bewitching charms of Ruby's Lesley Rankine; plus reviews of live gigs..... **Pages 36, 37**

A fine exhibition of Turner's watercolour sketches at the Tate Gallery reveals the superb command of technique he deployed in his skyscapes..... **Page 35**

Mixed blessings: A British Festival of Visual Theatre has been launched with the visit of an incomprehensible but gripping Polish theatre company..... **Page 35**

VW power: At the Barbican, Richard Hickox's superb cycle of all the Vaughan Williams symphonies continued with a programme of the Fourth, Fifth and Eighth..... **Page 35**



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FASHION
What the well-dressed man will wear this winter — 44-page fashion supplement

■ REVIEWS
Douglas Hurd on Andrew Roberts's vision of 2045; Marcel Berlins on Minette Walters

Preview: Comic poetry from both sides of the Atlantic is performed in *Unspeakable Verse* (BBC2, 5.40pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss thinks she has seen the *Backup* plots somewhere before..... **Page 47**

White heat

Tony Blair's most unexpected *coup de théâtre* this week was his announcement of a deal with British Telecom which would give the company greater freedom in return for the wiring up of every school, hospital and library to the information superhighway..... **Page 21**

The redress of poetry

Seamus Heaney has won the Nobel Prize for literature. Few if any poets now writing in English can point to a body of work of comparable quality to that of his *New Selected Poems, 1966-1987*..... **Page 21**

Upwardly mobile

How heartening is the news that Bullseye, the burglar's dog, is to live with a Getty..... **Page 21**

Right on: Tessa Keswick never had any doubts about being a Conservative. Valerie Grove talks to her about her appointment as the new director of the Centre for Policy Studies..... **Page 18**

Potent verse: The BBC has rediscovered fine language, Libby Purves says. In a new series beginning today, four well-known actors recite the type of light verse that used to be *de rigueur* as party pieces..... **Page 19**

Book watching: Screen adaptations of novels like *Pride and Prejudice* can isolate children from the mental images conjured by Jane Austen's language..... **Page 39**

Construction work: A two-page report on the Building Manager of the Year Awards, in association with *The Times*

With so many Americans convinced that O.J. Simpson was guilty, there could be a new chorus of demands to cut back the rights of criminal defendants and revamp the jury system to make sure the presumed guilty are punished. But that would be the wrong lesson to draw from this idiosyncratic case that has only tangential relevance to the normal workings of the judicial system — The New York Times

SEAMUS HEANEY

Art is not an inferior reflection of some ordained heavenly system, but a rehearsal of it in earthly terms; art does not trace the given map of a better reality, but improvises an inspired sketch... **Page 20**

BERNARD LEVIN

Why is the world — well, almost all the world — dispensing with religion? The Papacy shivers, believing that any prop that breaks will bring down the whole edifice. And how many empty Church of England churches are there?... **Page 20**

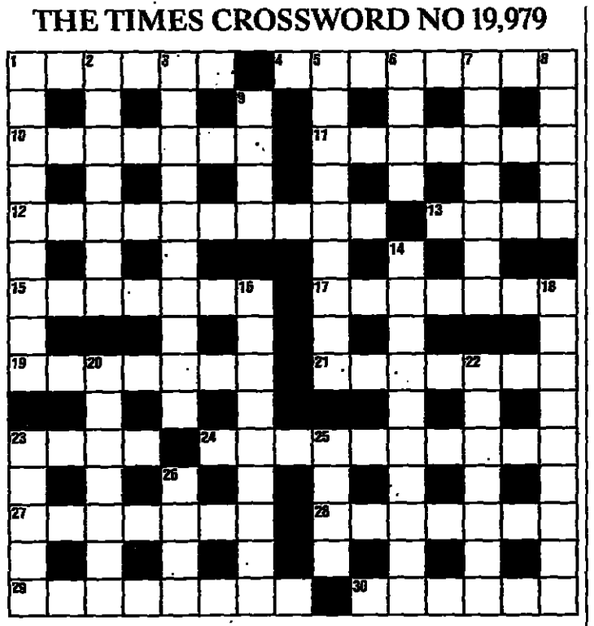
PETER RIDDELL

The Labour Party conference this week has been marked by differences of ideology over equality, and at the deepest level of the meaning of equality, the party's heart still lies more with "old" than with "new" Labour..... **Page 10**

Professor Alfred Beeston, Laudian Professor of Arabic at Oxford, 1955-79; **Ida Carr,** former dean of management, Royal Northern College of Music; **Gerald Swyre,** endocrinologist..... **Page 23**

Commitment to EMU; French nuclear tests; trial by television; US role in Balkans..... **Page 21**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,979



ACROSS

1 Decline storage facility in Orient (6)
4 A great admirer I deceive, in time (8)
10 Heads off tram — lad ran fast (7)
11 Rent was underpaid, to some extent (7)
12 Sort of blonde that's covered in cream in summer? (10)
13 Little woman's at home to knit (4)
15 Leader leaves the floor, taking a new type of seat (7)
17 May, for example, flourish (7)
19 The fine that can be twisted into a torque (7)
21 Put saint in here (7)
23 Instrument provided with iron case (4)
24 Silly rhymes, whether desired or not (5-5)
27 Sources can supply needs of rich man (7)
28 Choose artist's classic work (7)
29 He can make one's traits appear funny (8)
30 Underworld boss loves flower-girl (6)

DOWN

1 Copy goes wrong without right stabilizing device (9)
2 Fault in drain to sea shown up (7)
3 Fatherless child making relatively large donation (6,4)
5 Critical outbursts from supporter upset groups of people (9)
6 Football hooligan, for example, is abroad supporting side (4)
7 Man promises to repay without any interest (7)
8 Engineers organize broadcast again (5)
9 Queen to take over without a conclusive vote (4)
14 Still with nothing to debate? (10)
16 The flower of Greek youth (9)
18 After song, maybe, for 27 (9)
20 Open in university show (2,5)
22 Composer, with hesitation, becomes a weapon holder (7)
23 Commander in endless bother is the centre of attention (5)
25 Foreign song lacked veracity (4)
26 Ruler with tyrannous air, totally heartless (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,978

C	O	M	P	A	C	T		A	P	P	L	A	U	D
L	O	D	G	E		S	A	P		O				
A	R	M	E	D		I	N	T	E	R	F	A	C	E
S		E		L		M		I		O		C		S
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I		T				S			H			I		
C	L	O	V	E		T	A	C	T	I	C	I	A	N
		U		M		E		A		A		M		
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E		N		D		N		A		C		S		
S	P	E	C	T	R	E		Y	A	N	K	E	E	S

Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake Distrct	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Poole, Dorset, 19C (66F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, 11C (52F); highest rainfall: Glasgow, 1.02in; highest sunshine: Birmingham, 9.9hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be cloudy with outbreaks of rain although parts of the east will have a dry morning. Brighter but very showery weather will spread to many central and western areas during the day.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have rain, heavy at times, although some eastern parts will start dry. Somewhat brighter weather, but still with heavy showers, will spread across Northern Ireland during the morning and much of Scotland by evening.

It will be windy everywhere.

☐ **London, SE, E England, E Anglia:** dry, perhaps bright at first; rain spreading east. Wind south fresh, occasionally strong. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Cent S, SW England, Channel Isles:** mostly cloudy, outbreaks of rain. Wind south, becoming southwest, fresh or strong. Max 16C (61F).

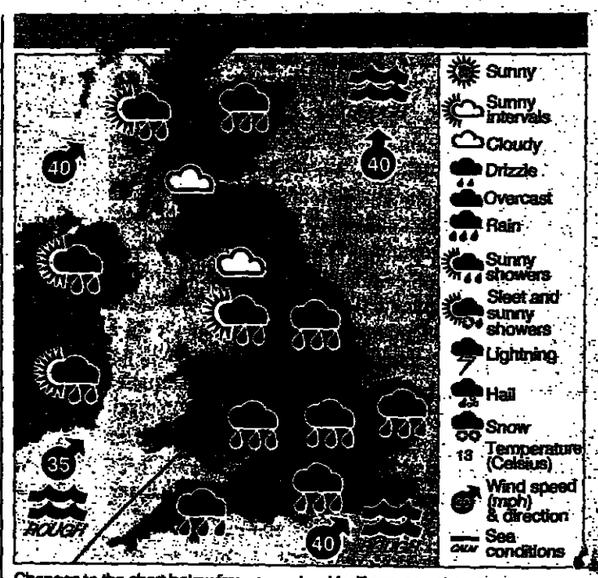
☐ **Midlands, Wales, NW, Cent N, NE England, Lakes, IoM:** rain, heavy at times, becoming brighter but still showery. Wind south, becoming southwest, fresh or strong. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW, NW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll:** rain turning showery with bright intervals developing. Wind south or southeast, becoming southwest, fresh or strong, locally gale at first. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** rain spreading northeast followed later by bright intervals and showers. Wind southeast strong, locally gale, becoming south fresh. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **N Ireland:** rain, soon turning showery with bright or sunny intervals developing. Wind south becoming southwest, moderate or fresh, but strong at first. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Outlook:** unsettled with showers or longer spells of rain, but the southeast should become drier and warmer.



Changes to the chart below from noon: low H will move northeast and fill as low V transfers east and deepens. Low B will gradually fill in situ and low G will also fill as it drifts east



AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	5.2	0.02	16	61	s	Littlehmptn	6.5	0.07	17	63	s
Anglesey	9.0	-	16	61	s	Liverpool	9.7	0.02	15	59	sh
Aspatria	6.9	0.05	15	59	sh	London	9.1	-	17	63	s
Aviemore	4.9	0.13	13	55	b	Lowestoft	8.2	-	17	63	s
Belfast	6.6	-	15	59	b	Manchester	8.4	-	17	63	s
Birmingham	9.9	-	17	63	sh	Margate	8.7	-	18	64	s
Bognor R	8.6	0.10	17	63	sh	Minehead	8.4	0.08	17	63	s
Bournem'th	7.4	0.21	17	63	sh	Morecambe	6.5	0.24	15	59	sh
Bristol	7.4	0.06	18	61	sh	Newcastle	9.5	-	16	61	s
Buxton	8.0	0.04	14	57	s	Newquay	7.2	0.02	17	63	s
Cardiff	7.2	0.09	16	61	sh	Norwich	9.3	-	17	63	s
Clacton	9.6	0.08	17	63	s	Nottingham	X				
Cleethorpes	X					Oxford	8.0	0.12	16	61	s
Colwyn Bay	8.6	-	17	63	s	Penzance	X	0.17	18	64	s
Cromer	8.7	-	17	63	s	Plymouth	X				
Doncaster	X					Poole	7.9	0.03	19	66	s
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	X				
Eastbourne	7.9	0.20	17	63	s	Ross-o-wye	8.4	0.05	16	61	sh
Edinburgh	6.8	0.09	15	59	sh	Ryde	X				
Eskdalemuir	5.3	0.04	13	55	sh	Salcombe	9.2	-	17	63	s
Exmouth	8.3	0.09	16	61	s	Sandown	8.9	0.18	17	63	sh
Falmouth	8.5	0.07	18	64	s	Saunin Snd	8.0	0.16	17	63	s
Fishguard	8.6	0.12	16	61	s	Scarboro'	7.9	-	16	61	s
Folkestone	8.6	0.19	17	63	sh	Shanklin	X				
Glasgow	X					Shrewsbury	9.1	-	17	63	s
Guernsey	8.2	-	19	66	s	Skegness	9.3	-	17	63	s
Hastings	8.2	0.07	18	64	s	Southend	X				
Hayling I.	6.9	0.13	17	63	s	Southport	X				
Herne Bay	8.4	0.03	17	63	sh	Southsea	5.4	0.32	17	63	sh
Hove	6.5	0.04	17	63	s	Stornoway	5.2	0.16	13	55	sh
Hunstanton	9.0	-	17	63	s	Swanage	7.2	0.22	17	63	sh
Ilfracombe	X					Teignmouth	9.4	-	17	63	s
Isle of Man	7.1	-	15	59	b	Tenby	4.7	0.14	17	63	c
Jersey	8.0	0.14	18	64	f	Tiree	5.7	0.41	14	57	sh
Kinloss	7.3	-	15	59	b	Torquay	9.1	-	18	64	s
Leeds	8.3	-	16	61	s	Tynemouth	X				
Lerwick	1.6	0.01	13	55	r	Ventnor	7.7	0.16	16	61	sh
Lauchars	6.6	0.02	15	59	sh	Weymouth	7.8	-	17	63	s

ABROAD

Ajaccio	22	72	s	Corfu	24	75	s	Madrid	22	72	c
Alicatin	26	79	s	C'phagn	16	61	f	Majorca	25	77	s
Alex'dria	26	79	f	Dublin	14	57	r	Malaga	27	81	s
Algiers	27	81	s	Dubrovnik	22	72	s	Malta	23	73	f
Amst'dm	17	63	s	Faro	24	75	s	Melb'rne	20	68	f
Athens	25	77	s	Florence	22	72	c	Mexico C	X		
B Aires	X			Frankfurt	19	66	r	Milan	21	70	c
Bahrain	33	91	s	Funchal	21	70	r	Montreal	11	52	f
Bangkok	31	88	f	Geneva	21	70	r	Moscow	11	52	c
Barbados	X			Gibraltar	25	77	s	Munich	22	72	s
Barcelona	21	70	r	Helsinki	12	54	r	N Delhi	34	93	s
Beirut	26	79	s	Hong K	25	77	r	N York	23	73	r
Belgrade	25	77	s	Innsbruck	23	73	s	Nairobi	25	77	t
Berlin	20	68	s	Istanbul	20	68	s	Naples	27	81	f
Bermuda	26	79	f	Jeddah	36	97	s	Nice	18	64	t
Biarritz	17	63	f	Jo'burg	X			Oslo	14	57	d
Bordx	20	68	f	Karachi	X			Paris	18	64	f
Brussels	17	63	f	L Angels	24	75	s	Peking	15	59	s
Budapst	19	66	f	L Palmas	25	77	s	Perth	15	59	c
Cairo	29	84	s	Le Touet	17	63	f	Prague	17	63	c
Cape Tn	X			Lisbon	20	68	s	Reykjavik	7	45	r
Ch'church	13	55	f	Locarno	18	64	d	Rhodes	24	75	s
Chicago	20	68	c	Luxemburg	13	55	c	Rio de J	24	75	f
Cologne	14	57	r	Luxor	38	97	s	Riyadh	35	95	s
								Rome	24	75	f
								S Fr'sco	22	72	s
								S Paulo	23	73	c
								Salzburg	22	72	s
								Santiago	17	63	f
								Seoul	18	64	f
								Sing'por	28	79	t
								St'kholm	15	59	c
								Strasb'rg	17	63	r
								Sydney	21	70	s
								Tangier	21	70	s
								Tel Aviv	28	82	s
								Tenerife	25	77	c
								Tokyo	25	77	f
								Toronto	15	59	c
								Tunis	28	82	f
								Valencia	22	72	f
								Vanc'ver	13	55	f
								Venice	20	68	f
								Vienna	18	64	f
								Warsaw	21	70	s
								Wash'ton	22	72	r
								Wel'ngton	15	59	X
								Zurich	27	70	s

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11:28	6.83	-	-	Leith	0:16	5.17	1:00	5.34
Aberdeen	11:46	4.06	11:50	4.21	Liverpool	9:20	8.80	9:36	9.38
Avonmouth	5:05	12.30	5:31	12.98	Lowestoft	7:05	2.47	8:01	2.42
Belfast	9:07	3.25	9:22	3.46	Margate	10:02	4.61	10:42	4.86
Cardiff	4:52	11.38	5:19	12.00	Milford Haven	4:15	6.39	4:35	6.81
Devonport	3:47	5.06	3:59	5.35	Newquay	3:00	6.24	3:24	6.56
Dover	9:07	6.34	9:45	6.98	Oban	4:11	3.44	4:19	3.94
Dublin	9:52	4.00	9:57	4.20	Penzance	2:41	4.89	3:00	5.22
Falmouth	3:08	4.64	3:31	5.05	Portland	4:46	1.82	5:01	2.02
Glasgow	10:30	4.44	11:01	4.61	Portsmouth	9:28	4.69	9:44	4.81
Harwich	9:46	3.74	10:22	3.96	Shoreham	9:27	5.00	9:48	5.04
Holyhead	8:38	5.25	8:41	5.62	Southampton	8:55	4.41	9:15	4.57
Hull	4:03	6.97	4:53	7.09	Swansea	4:13	8.84	4:39	9.35
Ilfracombe	3:52	8.66	4:16	9.23	Tees	1:28	4.96	2:05	5.29
King's Lynn	3:57	6.30	4:31	6.88	Wilton-on-Hse	9:40	4.02	10:16	4.29

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Sun rises: 7.09 am
Sun sets: 6.28 pm
Moon sets: 4.29 am
Moon rises: 5.23 pm

Full Moon October 8

London 6.28 pm to 7.10 am
Bristol 6.39 pm to 7.20 am
Edinburgh 6.37 pm to 7.27 am
Manchester 6.36 pm to 7.20 am
Penzance 6.51 pm to 7.31 am

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هكذا من الاصل



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Who are the building managers of the year?



ARTS 35-36

kd lang: has the torch singer lost her spark?



SPORT 40-48

Spotting a winning hand in test of domino theory

FEELING ONE DEGREE UNDER
Education 39

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY OCTOBER 6 1995

Ambitious shake-up hits delays

Fresh blow to Lloyd's

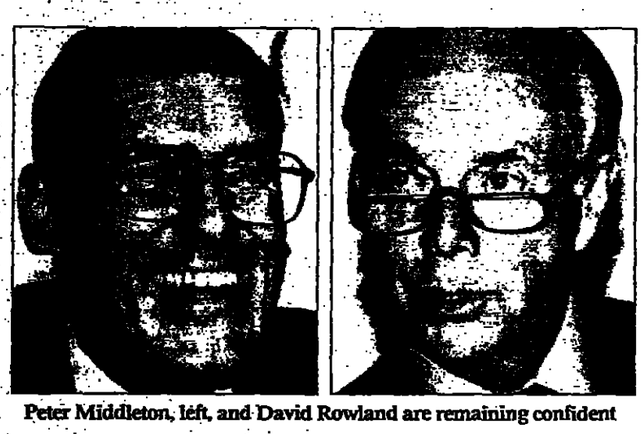
BY JON ASHWORTH

LLOYD'S OF LONDON has denied that its ambitious £6 billion restructuring plan has run into difficulties, despite missing a key deadline and admitting that the task is proving far more difficult than anticipated. David Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's, admitted yesterday that the timetable had slipped, but insisted a new package for the market would be in place by the spring as planned.

Lloyd's had hoped to send indicative statements to names by the end of the month, setting out estimates of how much each name would have to pay to "wipe the slate clean". It has been obliged to drop the idea altogether, and says it has no idea how long it will take to provide individual assessments. Mr Rowland said the overall figures remained sound, but the market needed more time to test out the individual numbers.

The delay came to light in the wake of Wednesday's monthly council meeting. Mr Rowland insisted that the restructuring process was still on track, saying: "We have seen nothing that leads us to be concerned about not meeting our deadline next spring. It would be foolish, not to say morally wrong, to say that if it was not true."

Negotiations had proved difficult at times, but he was confident that Lloyd's would eventually be in a position to make an offer that would be acceptable to all members. Instead of individual statements, names will now be sent a general newsletter, briefing them on progress so far.



Peter Middleton, left, and David Rowland are remaining confident

The report will include an update on Equitas, the new company designed to draw a line under 1992 and previous year liabilities, and provide an analysis of who will contribute what to the proposed £2.8 billion settlement package. The settlement is designed to end litigation and reduce the cost to members of reinsuring with Equitas. Underwriting agents, their errors and omissions insurers and other parties, including auditors, are expected to contribute about £800 million towards the package. The report is due to be sent out by the end of October. Names will be canvassed on the proposals towards the end of November.

Peter Middleton, chief executive of Lloyd's, said it was impossible to tell how long it would take to test a theoretical model aimed at assessing how much names would be liable for under the reconstruction plan. Mr Middleton said the planners were entering "absolutely unknown territory", and added: "We just don't know how long it will take. It is much better to wait and see this last piece in the jigsaw." Overall, Lloyd's finances are proving far more robust than forecast. The rare of collection of money from members is £150 million ahead of the same period last year. The Lloyd's central fund had £660 million in it at the end of September — twice as much as forecast. The fund is now thought unlikely to run out in 1996 as feared, unless the rate of outflow accelerates unexpectedly.

The market outlook for 1995 was "pretty optimistic". Rates were off in a number of areas, but were off from a fairly high peak. Mr Rowland said the market's resilience in the face of bad publicity had been "miraculous", and added: "I absolutely relish the time when we can get on and show the world what we can do."

Lloyd's is particularly sensitive to bad news at the moment. The market was rocked last month by news that Rosalind Gilmore was retiring as director of regulation after barely a year. Ms Gilmore had indicated that she might stay for three years, and her departure sent a worrying signal to the market. She will be succeeded by David Gittings, who joins from the Securities and Futures Authority. Michael Deeny, chairman of the Gooda Walker Action Group, has put himself up for election to the Lloyd's council.

Pennington, page 27
Heat on Lloyd's, page 29

NatWest is first bank to set up works council

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

NATWEST GROUP will today announce the formation of a worldwide staff council.

The consultation and information forum will far exceed the requirements of the European Union directive from which Mr Hurd helped to negotiate Britain's opt-out.

The forum will embrace directly elected representatives from the bank's 70,000 British workers as well as NatWest staff in countries outside the European Union, setting a benchmark for union negotiation with British companies. Chris Wathen, general manager (human resources), said NatWest had concluded that an annual meeting with staff representatives to discuss financial performance, investment strategy and workplace trends would benefit the business.

Despite Britain's opt-out, NatWest was obliged to set up a works council for some staff because of its retail banking operations in Ireland and Spain. But after 18 months' talks with seven unions from Britain and overseas, the company has concluded that, far from being a burden, a works council will enhance communication between management and employees. Its works council will embrace all 95,000 employees in more than 30 countries.

Although unwilling to express a view on Britain's opt-out, Mr Wathen observed that: "People don't always take the trouble to read directives and historical baggage is sometimes involved."

Trade unions are delighted by the deal with NatWest, the biggest among more than 30 British employers that have now agreed voluntarily to include their United Kingdom workers in consultation arrangements required in continental Europe.

Rory Murphy, general secretary of the NatWest Staff Association, which represents 40,000 staff, said the agreement "gives NatWest a lead in the field of employee involvement in the finance sector." The deal was welcomed by Bifu, the finance union.

Derek Wanless, the NatWest group chief executive, will be co-chairman of the NatWest staff council, alongside an elected employee representative.

Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary, is about to join the board of NatWest.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3544.4	(+0.3)
Yield	3.98%	
FT-SE A All share	1750.75	(+0.91)
Nikkei	18220.41	(+75.33)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4739.95	(-0.72)*
S&P Composite	580.24	(-1.23)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 11/16%*	(5 11/16%)
Long Bond	106 1/32*	(105⁴)
Yield	6.42%*	(6.44%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6 7/8%	(6 29/32%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	105 21/32	(106 1/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5845*	(1.5827)
London:		
$	1.5847	(1.5843)
DM	2.2559	(2.2680)
FFr	7.8290	(7.8490)
SFr	1.8153	(1.8228)
Yen	158.61	(159.42)
$ Index	85.0	(85.2)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4260*	(1.4358)
FFr	4.9485*	(4.9700)
SFr	1.1455*	(1.1545)
Yen	100.30*	(101.02)
$ Index	92.8	(93.0)

Tokyo close Yen 100.44

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Dec)	$15.55	($15.80)

GOLD

London close	$383.25	($382.85)

* denotes midday trading price

RPR lifts bid for Fisons as raid triggers a complaint

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

FISONS yesterday slipped a step closer to losing its battle for independence after Rhône Poulenc Rorer, the Franco-US company mounting a hostile bid for the besieged UK drugs group, lifted its offer and launched a raid on the market.

RPR raised its offer for Fisons from 240p a share to 265p which values Fisons at £1.83 billion. The increase exceeded expectations that RPR would offer 260p, and that would be sufficient to deliver a knock-out blow.

RPR scooped up 17 per cent of Fisons's shares in a raid which triggered a complaint to the Stock Exchange by SBC Warburg, which is acting on behalf of the bid target, over double dealing. Three per cent of the shares had been double counted, it said, by Hoare Govett, with those morning trades being struck off by the afternoon. Despite Warburg's complaints, the double counting is considered by observers an esoteric argument as the public had not been misled and the trades had been corrected. Double dealing will often occur in cross-agency trades.

RPR, the US subsidiary of Rhône Poulenc, the French pharmaceutical giant, will move today to pick up the 13 per cent it needs, under Takeover Panel deadlines, to carry on targeting the stock. In heavy trading yesterday RPR bought nearly 115 million shares.

The revised sum, which is a qualified final offer with RPR retaining the right to hoist the bid again if it is in competition with a now unlikely white knight, represents an improvement of £173 million on its original offer. It is a premium of 37 per cent over the closing price for Fisons on August 17, the day before the bid was launched. Fisons shares closed at 263½p, up 4½p on the day.

Fisons rejected the new offer shortly after it was made. Robert Cawthorn, the chairman of RPR who yesterday afternoon was about to begin a round of lobbying institutional shareholders, said that shareholders were already voting with their feet. "Fisons is only worth 265p with the synergies that we can offer. Without those it has very little value."

The offer document from the company declared that Fisons was bereft of new products and incapable of meaningful growth.

A spokesman for Fisons said that the document "read like a Rupert Bear annual" and that "bankrupt arguments and a stalled raid had altered nothing." The company maintained that the revised offer undervalued Fisons.

Tempus, page 28

PowerGen bid with Littlechild

THE Director-General of Offer, is preparing his advice to the Office of Fair Trading on whether or not PowerGen's £2 billion bid for Midlands Electricity should be referred to the Monopolies Commission. PowerGen's response to Stephen Littlechild's consultation paper is understood to have been delivered to Offer on Wednesday (Melvyn Marckus writes).

Offer is expected to take up to two weeks to submit its advice to the OFT, which received PowerGen's submission last week.

PowerGen's submission to John Bridgeman, Director-General of the OFT, is expected to argue that the proposed amalagam with Midlands will still leave the privatised industry with competition in generation and supply; an independent National Grid; and full access to the Rec's distribution networks. PowerGen is also expected to emphasise that the company's acquisition of a Rec will not affect Offer's ability to regulate.

PowerGen has argued that the electricity "pool" serves to separate generation from supply.

Pennington, page 27

PETER TREVINOR



Fighting his corner: Alan Sugar yesterday after Amstrad announced a return to profits

Amstrad in the black and looking for an acquisition

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

AMSTRAD, Alan Sugar's consumer electronics group, plans a significant acquisition after moving back into the black. It reported £3.1 million profits yesterday, after losses that have clocked up to £100 million at the operating level over the past three years.

David Rogers, the chief executive to whom Mr Sugar surrendered organisational activities last year, said he was looking to buy something with a turnover of up to £300 million. Amstrad sits on £141 million net cash.

But he also said it was imperative to tackle the losses in the company's traditional area of consumer electronics. In the year to June 30, that area lost £16 million, slicing a chunk from pre-tax profits. But rationalisation and expansion hoisted the company well clear of the previous year's £19.9 million losses.

Another division which faces a shake-up is the innovations facility in consumer electronics. Although this development centre gave birth to the recently launched Ultima Face Care System, the first electronic home beauty product, it has produced little else. Mr Rogers said many of the development engineers may be redeployed in subsidiaries.

Also under the spotlight is Dancall, the Danish mobile phone company bought in 1993. The subsidiary, which did not make a profit contribution in the year, suffered a four-month delay in the launch of its new phones. Amstrad Direct, the division that sells PCs direct, suffered disappointing start-up costs.

The final dividend payment, due on December 1, is held at 1.5p, making a 2.5p (unchanged) for the year.

Pennington, page 27

Housebuilding still weak

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

ACTIVITY in the housebuilding sector remains in the doldrums and weaker than last year, according to new figures from the Department of the Environment.

The number of dwellings started in August totalled 14,000, down on 16,300 in August last year. Completions, at 14,500, were also lower — 15,800 at the same stage in 1994.

These figures tend to confirm the troubled picture that emerged from several of Britain's leading housebuilders last week who reported poor results and suggests that, despite this week's news of a rise in mortgage commitments in August, the housebuilding market is far from recovery.

Taking the last three months, 45,400 dwellings were started, 15 per cent down on the same period last year. Completions, however, totalled 46,800, which was up 2 per cent from a year ago.

Seasonally adjusted figures showed that housing starts in the three months to August were 3 per cent lower than in the previous three months and total completions were down 1 per cent.

Separate figures published in America also pointed to weakness in the housing market. New housing completions fell 7.9 per cent in August to the lowest level since September, 1993, according to the Commerce Department. The completions rate in August was 9 per cent below the same month last year.

Manweb

Shareholder information update

Manweb's response to ScottishPower's final offer

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(English language)
or
0800 55 66 33
(Welsh language)

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Fight over Knight Williams hots up

BY ROBERT MILLER

LAWYERS and forensic accountants fighting to secure millions of pounds of compensation on behalf of hundreds of elderly investors yesterday signalled an all-out offensive against City regulators. MPs on all sides of the House will also be enlisted to bring extra pressure to bear for a speedy resolution to the Knight Williams affair.

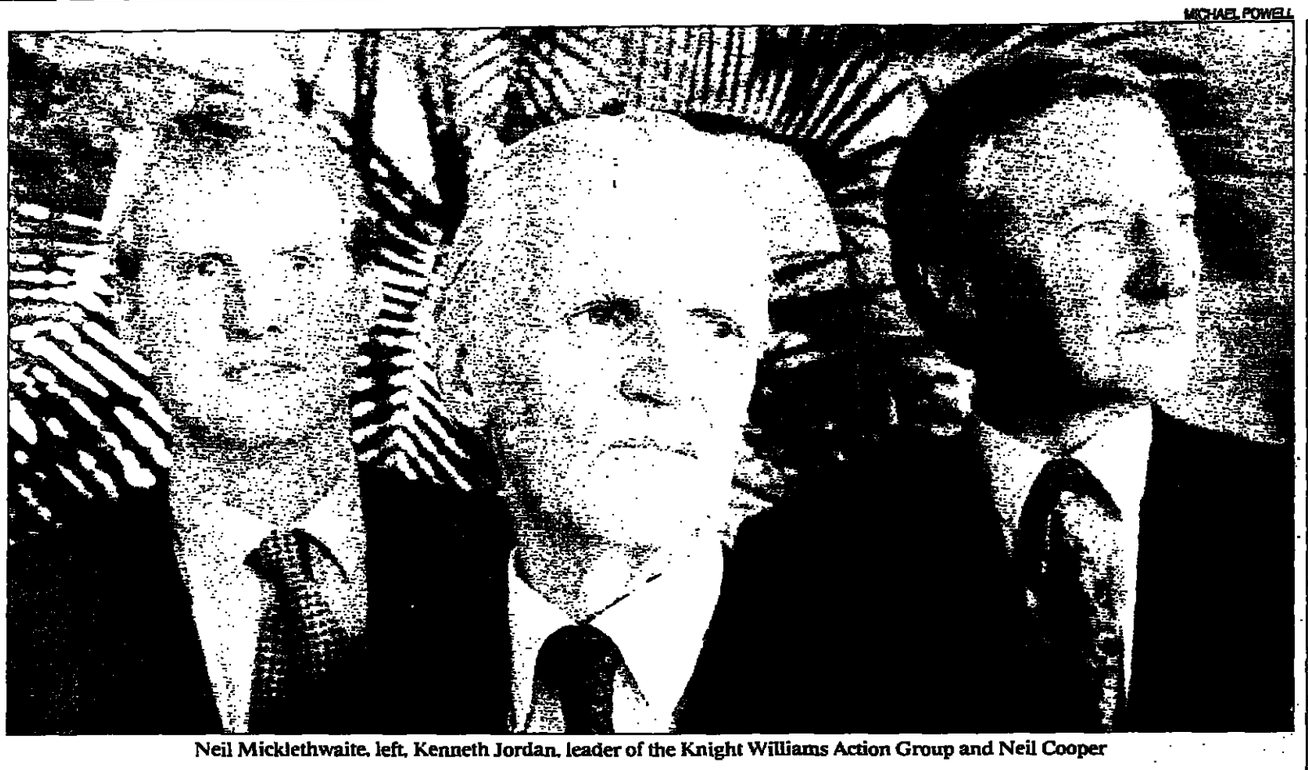
Neil Micklethwaite of Dibb Lupton Broomhead, the law firm acting on behalf of the Knight Williams Action Group led by Kenneth Jordan, on a *pro bono* basis, said: "It is not right that elderly investors should be chasing around individually to secure their compensation. Pressure needs to be bought to bear. We are now looking to identify some of the regulatory failures that have occurred over the past two years and in particular the role of Fimbra, the company's former regulator, and the Securities and Investments Board (SIB)."

Knight Williams, the former retirement income specialist, last year agreed to a SIB-brokered conciliation service. When the SIB informed KW in July that the compensation bill was likely to top £3 million, the company went into liquidation. This summer KW received £15 million from Singer & Friedlander, the merchant bank that bought £400 million of Knight Williams's funds. The money was paid to Knight Williams Portfolio Management.

Neil Cooper, of Robson Rhodes, the accountancy firm also working on a *pro bono* basis, said: " The improvements in the regulatory system have come too late for Knight Williams investors. We will be helping them to put forward their claims in a way most likely to succeed."

Dibb may now launch a "class" action, for which ivestors could qualify for legal aid, to direct the SIB to hand over its case paper work.

MICHAEL POWELL



Neil Micklethwaite, left, Kenneth Jordan, leader of the Knight Williams Action Group and Neil Cooper

New car incentives fail to tempt private buyers

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING EDITOR

SALES of new cars are up so far this year — but only just, according to figures issued yesterday by the motor industry.

Registrations for the first nine months were 1,594,166 compared with 1,588,316 in the first three-quarters of 1994, a rise of just 0.37 per cent. However, statistics from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders showed registrations in September falling 3.4 per cent.

Executives comforted themselves by saying that the figures could have been worse. Ernie Thompson, the society's chief executive, said: "Despite suggestions that the August total had been distorted by pulling registrations forward, September looks better than might be expected."

But carmakers must now be wondering when they will get a return for the tens of millions of pounds they are spending on advertising, discounts and free equipment in an apparently vain attempt to stimulate a moribund market.

The problem for the industry has been the same all year: finding the missing private buyers. Fleet sales have been buoyant, with firms replacing ageing company cars and vans, encouraged by heavy discounting by manufacturers anxious to keep their production lines moving.

But private buyers, worried by negative equity and the economy, have stayed away in increasing numbers, accounting for only about half of sales this year, in spite of lucrative offers from carmakers, ranging from price cuts to free insurance.

Mr Thompson said: "There is evidence of some renewed interest in the private sector but this is offset by a decline in the fleet market. The year-to-date total, however, demonstrates that there is little growth in the market overall and this continues to worry both manufacturers and retailers."

There were further worrying signs for the industry with the number of imports creeping up again last month. Almost six in ten of the 140,069 cars registered in September came from abroad, boosted by the success of models such as the Ford Mondeo, which was second in the sales league table in September and third throughout the year. Although regarded as British, the car is made at Genk in Belgium. Other foreign-made models in the September top ten included the Vauxhall Corsa and Peugeot 106.

The top ten best-selling cars from January to September: 1 Ford Escort (227,344 sold); 2 Ford Fiesta (105,258); 3 Ford Mondeo (100,838); 4 Vauxhall Astra (82,324); 5 Vauxhall Cavalier (67,840); 6 Vauxhall Corsa (58,441); 7 Rover 200 (54,762); 8 Peugeot 306 (47,019); 9 Renault Clio (44,432); and 10 Peugeot 106 (39,383).

Five on list for Rail rolling stock sale

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

A SHORTLIST of three management buyout teams and at least two outside bidders has been drawn up by the Government for the £1.5 billion auction of British Rail's stock of 12,000 locomotives and coaches.

The sale of the trains, ownership of which has been divided between three leasing companies (Roscos), is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Only two outside bidders, GE Capital and a consortium led by Babcock & Brown and Nomura, the Japanese bank, are believed to have made the shortlist, according to this month's edition of *Rail Privatisation News*.

Up to 40 organisations are thought to have originally expressed interest in the three Roscos — Angel Train Contracts, Eversholt Leasing and Porterbrook.

This was whittled down to about ten serious bidders, and a shortlist was drawn up after several serious bids pitched well below the asking price were rejected.

A spokesman for Hambros Bank refused to comment on the number of bidders but City sources involved in the sale said that the shortlist had been pruned because of the complexity of the bidding process.

One source said: "You have to be sensible about the number of bidders at the final stage. You have to be convinced they are well capitalised and highly qualified to run the companies when they get to the final stage."

A Department of Transport spokesman said the sale remained on course for completion by the end of the year. "We received final bids on Friday on time and we are now conducting a detailed evaluation of them."

Daiwa loss 'came through futures'

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

AS PRESSURE mounts on senior executives of Daiwa Bank in Japan to resign, it has emerged that the $1.1 billion in trading losses may have been substantially incurred in the futures market.

The bank claimed last week that the loss had been sustained in the US treasury bond cash market, in contrast to losses suffered by Nick Leeson and Barings Bank in derivatives. But Wall Street traders from other banks that dealt with Daiwa say Toshihide Iguchi, the dealer responsible for the shortfall, was also a substantial player in treasury bond futures. The New York Times quotes one Lehman Brothers bond trader as saying that Mr Iguchi was one of the bank's best customers in the futures market.

Meanwhile, US banking regulators are furious that Daiwa not only took seven weeks to report the losses but also used the interval to raise substantial new funds in the money markets. After Mr Iguchi's confession to his superiors, the bank issued 50 billion yen (£314 million) of preferred stock in Japan and raised more than $50 million on international bond markets before reporting its plight to the regulatory authorities.

The regulators are likely to seek sweeping changes within Daiwa before lifting the order restraining its New York operation from conducting all but a minimal level of business.

BUSINESS TODAY

Carlsberg-Tetley to shed 500 jobs

MORE than 500 jobs will be lost as a result of a wide-ranging restructuring at Carlsberg-Tetley Brewing, the joint venture between Allied Domecq and Carlsberg. Brewing and packaging will cease at Warrington by October 1996, resulting in the loss of 240 jobs, with output transferred to existing breweries at Burton and Leeds. Warrington will continue to employ more than 260 people in sales and distribution.

At the Burton brewery, up to 150 jobs will be lost as part of a plan to reduce costs and improve efficiency. Elsewhere within the company 115 jobs will be lost in marketing, sales distribution and finance operations. The redundancies follow a review to identify excess capacity and costs, reflecting a decline in beer volumes and rationalisation among competitors. The company will continue to employ about 3,800 people. Carlsberg-Tetley said these were the final steps in the reorganisation of the business.

Next sells US group

NEXT, the fashion retailer, is raising $37.5 million through the sale of TCS Management Group, an American subsidiary that develops and sells software systems for telephone call centres, to Aspect Telecommunications Corporation. The consideration comprises $33 million in cash and $4.5 million by way of a three-year promissory note. Although the disposal will result in the elimination of a source of operating income, this will be offset by interest income on the sale proceeds. The disposal is expected to be completed next month.

Mexico to repay debt

MEXICO has told the US that it will repay $700 million in loans extended to help it through its financial crisis at the beginning of this year. Lawrence Summers, US Undersecretary of International Affairs, said this was proof that Mexico's programme to restore financial stability was working. The announcement came ahead of the autumn meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank next week. The spring meeting was dominated by discussion on how the Mexican crisis could have been prevented. Mexico still owes the $11.8 billion in aid.

European rate cuts

THE Bundesbank's policymaking council left German interest rates unchanged but there were small rate cuts in both Finland and Denmark. Bank of Finland cut its base rate to 5 per cent from 5.25 per cent, effective on November 1. Its tender rate, the chief tool of monetary policy, was lowered to 5.5 per cent from 6 per cent as the authorities said that inflation would remain moderate. The central bank of Denmark lowered its key money market rate by 10 basis points to 5.3 per cent, a move which followed a Danish rate cut last week.

Barry Wehmiller rises

BARRY WEHMILLER INTERNATIONAL, which makes equipment for the food and drinks industry, enjoyed a significant increase in activity in developing countries in the year to July 31, when group pre-tax profits rose to £7.08 million from £5.1 million. Trading conditions in the UK and North America stabilised after two years of strong growth but demand in continental Europe, which had lagged behind Britain and America, showed signs of recovery. Earnings were 10.4p a share (7.5p). The total dividend is 7.3p (6.7p), with a final 4.3p, due January 3. The shares rose 2p to 163p.

Cash society stays

THE cashless society is a long way off, according to a survey commissioned by Girobank. It found that more than a quarter of 2,000 respondents preferred to use cash rather than credit cards or cheques for purchases of £100, and more than half believed that paying cash for such purchases would give them a better deal on price. Philip Lloyd, Girobank head of marketing, said: "Although the decline of cash has been talked about for some time, there are more and more places where you can obtain it, whether from hole in the wall machines or cash back from supermarkets."

Galliford back in black

GALLIFORD, the builder, returned to profit in the year to June 30, earning £1.2 million before tax, compared with losses of £5.9 million in the previous 12 months. The company said the recovery was achieved despite a significant downturn for new housing in the second half, while the general construction market continued to be difficult. Earnings were 1.11p a share, compared with losses of 5.04p. There is a final dividend of 0.5p a share, due November 27, maintaining the total at 1p for the year. The shares rose 2p to 17p.

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Union angry over rejection of working hours evidence

Government halts stress guide

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government has abandoned publication of a stress guide for employers that suggested that staff working more than 48 hours a week were twice as likely to suffer serious illness. Health officials said yesterday that they did not accept a conclusion in the guide that "working more than 48 hours per week doubles the risk of coronary heart disease".

The Health Department challenged the conclusion, claiming it was based on a paper published in the US 20 years ago. "The Department of Health believes more recent evidence which does not support the suggested link."

The white collar Manufacturing Science and Finance Union said that 20,000 copies of the report — due to have been published in September — had been printed but not distributed.

Roger Lyons, the MSF general secretary, wrote to Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, demanding publication of the guide. The union claimed the Government wanted to suppress the guide because of its opposition to the European Working Hours Directive, due to come into force next year, which recommended a maximum of 48 hours a week for most workers.

Mr Lyons said research in Sweden and America showed that 10,000 people working over 48 hours a week will die each year from coronary heart disease.

The guide, *Mental Health and Stress in the Workplace. A guide for Employers*, was commissioned by the Health Department and based on research by Cary Cooper, a leading expert in stress and Sue Cartwright, both based at Manchester School of Management.

A health spokesman said: "This review was commissioned by the department as a contribution to its work in developing health of the nation guidance on mental health in the workplace." Research published last year concluded there was no evidence to link long working hours with increased threat of coronary heart disease, said the department.

Professor Cooper said: "Obviously it struck a nerve somewhere but it was not a government issue. It is clear that long hours do not mean good health."

[redacted]

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.19	2.03
Austria Sch	17.03	15.53
Belgium Fr	49.79	45.49
Canada $	2.224	2.064
Cyprus Cyp£	0.758	0.703
Denmark Kr	9.46	8.65
Finland Mkk	7.39	6.74
France Fr	8.29	7.64
Germany Dm	2.43	2.22
Greece Dr	386.00	361.00
Hong Kong $	12.90	11.90
Ireland Pt	1.03	0.95
Israel Shk	5.1751	4.5251
Italy Lira	2865.00	2610.00
Japan Yen	173.50	157.50
Malta	0.603	0.548
Netherlds Gld	2.700	2.470
New Zealand $	2.55	2.33
Norway Kr	10.60	9.80
Portugal Esc	249.00	230.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.53
Spain Pta	203.00	190.00
Sweden Kr	11.68	10.88
Switzerland Fr	1.96	1.78
Turkey Lira	refer	74922.0
USA $	1.683	1.553

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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☐ Transforming the electricity industry ☐ Settlement plan faces delay ☐ Amstrad gamble pays off

The shrinking generation gap

☐ BY THE end of today 110,000 private shareholders will know whether their shares in Manweb are worth the 990p they are being offered, and another 170,000 may even know the final value of their shares in Norweb.

Those shareholders, many also customers, may be elated by their windfall, outraged that their local electricity company has been snapped up by a predator or pondering the implications of paying their electricity and water bills to the same body. But their gains or losses are a sideshow, with a large chunk of the electricity industry being carved into an unrecognisable shape elsewhere.

Manweb will probably succumb to ScottishPower. Whether Norweb receives a knock-out offer from North West Water would seem to depend on the attitude of some of the latter's smaller institutional investors. The delay in a further bid, after Tuesday's increase from the Texan duo, could be down to the need to butter them up.

Any higher offer from North West, the fourth Norweb will have received, will be the end of the matter. The other bidders have signally failed to show their commitment by buying shares in the market. Their motives are unclear. The suspicion is that, with true Texan bloody-mindedness, they are determined to make Sir Desmond Pitcher at North West over-pay and eventually regret his folly.

Rather more significant is the emergence of three or four big players elsewhere in the sector whose remit will run from the power station to the domestic socket — rather like the old and unlamented CEGB, which privatisation was meant to do away with. National Power and PowerGen are both lobbying furiously for their bids for, respectively, Southern and Midlands, to go through without regulatory hindrance. The main opposition is coming from the industry regulator, the hapless Stephen Littlechild, which on past form would seem to guarantee their success.

Eastern is already there. If it succeeds in buying National Power's unwanted capacity, it will command 12 per cent of the country's generating plant and the biggest distribution base.

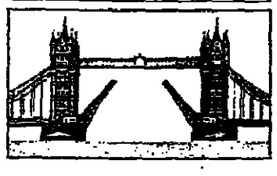
All this was presaged by Ed Wallis, PowerGen's chief executive, when he gave evidence to the Select Committee on Energy this summer. The generators are pinning their hopes on their bids being waved through on two arguments: that the generation market is so fragmented now that they should be allowed back into distribution, and that the freeing up of supply in 1998, allowing domestic customers to shop around, means they will then not have a monopoly here.

It is an argument that could find favour with the Government, given the relative lack of criticism that has greeted the bids. The next move in the electricity paper chase is expected to be a firm bid from one regional company for another. That could at last prove a bid too far for the competition authorities.

Leaks spring at Lloyd's

☐ THE Lloyd's building has increasingly seemed to share a menacing psychic link with the declining affairs of the 300-year-old insurance market. It may be of more than passing significance, therefore, that the edifice designed to "last a thousand years" has started leaking after nine. The serried rows of external pipes, whose aggressive functionality shocked those whom architects like to shock, turn out not to be functional after all. The stainless steel outside was decorative cladding for conventional insulated pipes, at least some of which are now rusting, leaking hot water and in need of replacement.

PENNINGTON



Names must hope that this unfortunate development (which seems not to be covered by the building's insurance policies) does not prove too symbolic for the Corporation's £2.8 billion global settlement plan. That plan is supposed to end litigation, cauterise the open sores of old underwriting years and consign to history five years of trouble, sleaze and incompetence that generated £8 billion losses. But five months after the plan was presented to a generally welcoming world, it is already leaking.

By the end of this month, the deliberations of the names committee led by former Tory adviser Sir Adam Ridley were to allow estimates to be sent to names of how the £2.8 billion was to be spread among them and how much it would cost to clear away the past with premiums to Equitas, Lloyd's magic dustbin. Real figures would not be known until the spring, but affected names would, it was hoped, know enough on the costs and conditions of the plan to pass judgment on it in November.

Sir Adam now wants more time, so the October estimates are to be abandoned. That need not be bad news. Financial details of the Equitas operation are becoming available fast. A moving target is harder to hit, but reliable estimates might arrive sooner than the spring. Names have been through enough foot-dragging to be suspicious. A rise in the settlement total above £3 billion would help, if auditors and agents play ball. Otherwise, names will note that solicitors are already looking at what legal action may be needed over those leaky pipes.

Sweet success for Sugar

☐ SMALL investors' action groups like that formed for Knight Williams investors yesterday have a poor record of success — but one exception was the band of private shareholders who foiled Alan Sugar's bid to take his company private in 1992.

It is not in Mr Sugar's nature to be humble or apologetic, and he would not have come as far as he has if it was. There has never been a trace of an admission that his offer of, at today's prices 150p, was ungenerous or unreasonable in 1992, even if the price has come close to doubling since.

Amstrad's recovery has come without help from the prevailing winds on the high street. Mr Sugar's view at the time of his 1992 offer was that times were so uncertain for Amstrad that he was doing them a favour by absorbing the risk. He has not significantly changed that view since. Amstrad's return to the black, after huge write-offs on obsolete stock, comes after risky but eventually successful entry by acquisition into the mobile phone business and computers. The virtues of the company's latest bold move, to sell its own computers and faxes direct to the public and cut out middlemen like Dixons, are as yet unproven.

Mr Amstrad has an odd conversational quirk, over and above the, ahem, abruptness for which he is famed. He never discusses Spurs, his other corporate love, while on the stump on behalf of Amstrad. The City, which he still loathes, suspects he is now more interested in the former than the latter, a theory bolstered by the arrival at Amstrad last summer of a chief executive to share his burden.

Short measures

☐ ANOTHER day, another bout of insider trading, and another comfy reassurance from the Stock Exchange sleuths that they are doing all they should. Boddington shares were fizzing over the top of the glass a good six hours before news of the approach went through Topic screens. Somebody knew, somebody dealt, and somebody knows who it was. But arrests are not thought to be imminent.

Boddington shares soar on bid talks

BY GEORGE SIVELL

BODDINGTON, the drinks, hotels and nursing homes group, was forced to rush out an announcement yesterday that it was in talks which may lead to a recommended bid for the company after a surge in its share price (See Pennington, this page).

The shares had started moving yesterday morning, rising 16p to 288p in early trade and reached 358p by the close, a spectacular gain of 86p on the day. Market speculation had centred on an offer of 340p a share. Sources close to Boddington were quoted by financial news agencies yesterday morning as saying they were unaware of having received any bid approach.

The announcement from Hubert Reed, the chairman, and the rest of the board, came several hours after the denial, and said the approach could lead to a bid "at substantially in excess of its current share price". A further announcement would be made in due course, shareholders were promised.

At 358p a share Boddington is worth £435 million. The shares have traded in a narrow band between 240p and 290p for more than two years.

Whitbread, the drinks group that bought Boddington's brewery in 1989, was one name mentioned by speculators. Whitbread declined to comment last night. Dealers reported heavy interest in Boddington's shares from the company's North West homeland. The group has pub, hotel and nursing home interests across the country but is based in Alderley Edge, Cheshire.

This led some dealers to speculate that the bidder might be Greenalls, the ambitious Warrington-based drinks group. Analysts, however, said that a Boddington bid would be a large mouthful for Greenalls. Boddington's two largest shareholders are Mercury Asset Management with 13.4 per cent, and Britannic Assurance with 7.8 per cent.

Boddington itself failed to land Devenish, the West Country drinks group, after a bruising £128 million bid battle in 1991. Boddington ultimately took a £25 million profit on a 20 per cent stake in Devenish, which was subsequently acquired by Greenalls.



John Shannon had early overtures rebuffed as inadequate

Former Country Casuals chief set to mount a bid

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

THE former chairman and chief executive of Country Casuals is set to launch a takeover bid worth about £25 million for the womenswear retailer which last month reported a loss of £1.05 million for the first half.

John Shannon, who quit last September just after the company made one of several profit warnings, approached Country Casuals through Ciro Holdings, a company he controls. Country Casuals has condemned the approach as opportunistic and said the level of the possible offer did not reflect group potential. The company, which has suffered losses particularly on its non-core brand interests of outsize clothes and fashion for the younger market, has reined back some of the losses after it slipped into the red last year. Last month's interim losses showed an improvement of 30 per cent.

A value has not been put on the expected offer by Mr Shannon, who owns about 19 per cent of the equity, but it is thought by marketmakers to be in the region of £25 million.

The company said that the last interim results reflected the substantial progress made since the profits warning made last September. It said: "The timing of the approach is opportunistic."

Mr Shannon, who is being advised in his offer by Robson Rhodes, left Country Casuals after a dispute in which his fellow directors refused to extend the length of his service agreement.

Tempus, page 28

United Gas loses case

AN ATTEMPT by United Gas to end a high-priced contract to buy gas from National Power has been stopped by the High Court (Ross Tieman writes).

The company, jointly owned by Utilicorp of the US and six regional electricity companies, was ordered to pay the generator a sum understood to be £6 million.

At issue was the supply of gas through a single pipeline. The court ruled that National Power had the right to use several routes. United Gas said last night it may appeal.

US placing by MAID

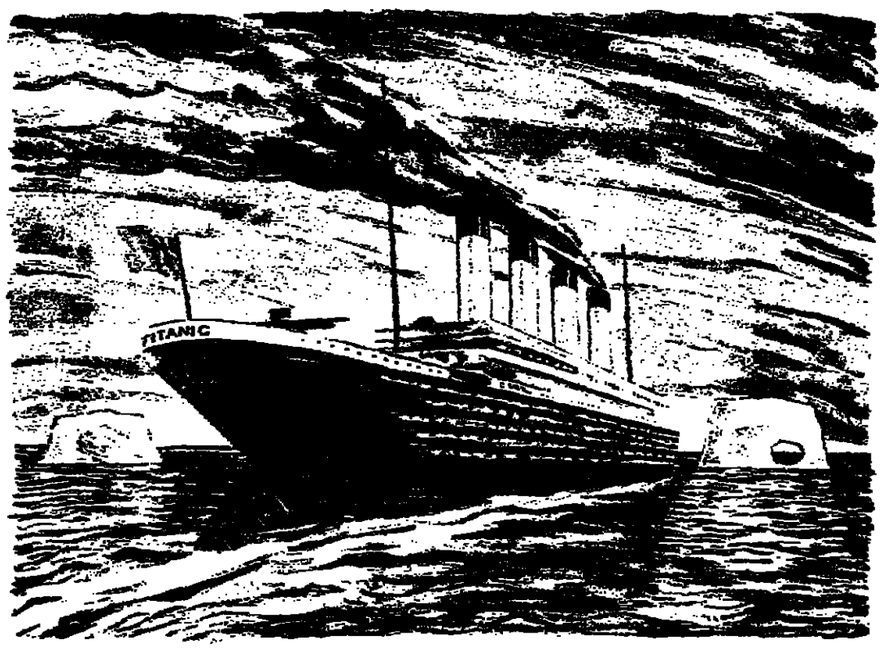
BY MARTIN BARROW

THE online business information company, MAID, is raising $70 million by way of a US share placing and securing a Nasdaq listing in New York.

The proposed issue of up to 19.55 million new shares, representing 24 per cent of the current issued share capital, is not being offered on a pro-rata basis to existing investors and, therefore, requires shareholders' approval. An extraordinary meeting will be convened on October 30.

The new shares will be placed in the form of American Depositary Shares with the price to be fixed immediately before the placing. At 248p a share, the closing price on Wednesday, the issue would raise up to $70 million. Yesterday the shares rose 3p to close at 251p.

Funds raised will used to exploit the market for Profound, the company's new Windows-based online business information service.



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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Double-counting claim as RPR moves on Fisons

FISONS appears to be on the verge of losing the battle to remain independent after Rhône-Poulenc Rorer waded into the marketplace to buy 17 per cent of its shares.

ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, picked up 11¼ million shares on behalf of the Franco-American pharmaceutical group, paying prices of between 263p and 265p a share. By the close of business, the Fisons share price had risen 4½p with a massive 212 million shares changing hands. But it emerged last night that SBC Warburg, acting on behalf of Fisons, had lodged a complaint with the Stock Exchange, alleging that Hoare Govett had double-counted a number of transactions. It said the double-counting may have involved 3 per cent of the shares bought by RPR, making the true figure held nearer 15 per cent.

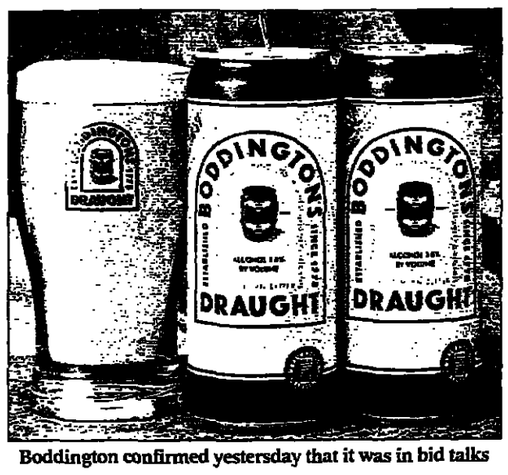
Earlier in the day, RPR had raised its offer by 25p to 265p, valuing Fisons at £1.8 billion. The offer was immediately rejected by Fisons, up 4½p at 263p, but there was no shortage of sellers among the institutions which have seen the shares trade as low as 103p in the past year.

Many of them feel that Stuart Wallis has done a marvellous job of reviving the group's fortunes since taking over as chief executive, but it will be sometime before they see the Fisons price at this level again.

Meanwhile, **Medeva** stood out with a rise of 8½p to 279½p, hoping to benefit when the institutions begin to plough back in the marketplace the profits accrued from Fisons.

This latest flurry of bid activity again helped to keep the pot boiling in the rest of the equity market although share prices were unable to hold onto their early gains. The FT-SE 100 index, up more than 11points at one stage, eventually closed 0.3 up at 3,544.4. The total number of shares traded soared to more than one billion with the figure swollen by the activity in Fisons and other special situations, including **Hanson**, ¾p lighter at 200p (17.68 million shares) and **Dragon Oil**, unchanged at 1½p (69 million shares and 18.4 million warrants).

Elsewhere on the takeover front, Boddington, the pub and hotel chain, confounded the City by confirming that it was in bid talks which could lead to a recommended offer at premium "substantially in excess" of the ruling market price. Confirmation of the approach sent the **Boddington** share price soaring 86p to 358p, with both Greenalls and Whitbread, which already owns Boddington brewing interests, seen as the most likely suitors. At these levels, Boddington enjoys a price tag of £437 million. Earlier in the day, brokers had been pouring scorn on claims that the group was about to be the subject of a bid. **Whitbread** fell 7p to 629p and **Greenalls** lost 10p at 488½p.



Boddington confirmed yesterday that it was in bid talks

Country Casuals, the women's clothes group, has received a bid approach from a company controlled by John Shannon, its former chairman. He resigned in September last year, just two days after the company issued a profits warning. Country Casuals described the bid as opportunistic and said the potential offer did not reflect its potential. Substantial progress had been made since Shannon's resignation and this had been backed up by first-half trading news. **Country Casuals** gained 15p to 130p.

Great Universal Stores dropped 10p to 593p after a profits downgrading by James Capel, the broker, but **Storehouse** cheered the market with news of increased sales. The shares responded with a rise of 4p to 304p.

Enterprise Oil shed 10p at 347p after BZW reduced its numbers. **British Steel** also came under the hammer, losing 5¾p at 175¼p after a number of meetings with brokers recently. SBC Warburg, the broker, led the sellers yesterday as almost 14 million shares were traded. Kleinwort Benson, the broker, has also decided to downgrade its recommendation for British Steel from a "buy" to a "hold".

Allied Domecq fell 6p to 526p after announcing that the reorganisation of its Carlsberg-Tetley brewing joint venture with Carlsberg, the Danish brewer, was likely to cost £50 million. The measures will include the closure of the Warrrington brewery with the loss of 240 jobs and the loss of 150 jobs at its Burton Brewery by 1998. Lehman Brothers, the broker, added to Allied-Domecq's misery by telling clients to sell the shares down to 450p.

News of restructuring charges totalling £500,000 sent shares of **Neotronics Technology** sliding 6p to 55p. The group said it had been forced to restructure its management and research and development operations because of difficult trading conditions in the gas detection sector.

Amstrad, the consumer electronics group, celebrated a return to the black with a rise of 12½p to 268½p. Pre-tax profits last year came in at £3.1 million compared with a deficit last time of almost £20 million. Sales were also sharply higher. The contribution from Viglen, a recent acquisition, was better than expected and losses on the consumer electronics side were greatly reduced. The dividend was maintained at 2.5p.

□ **GILT-EDGED**: Prices enjoyed a steady opening and held up well for most of the day against attempts to drive the market lower again.

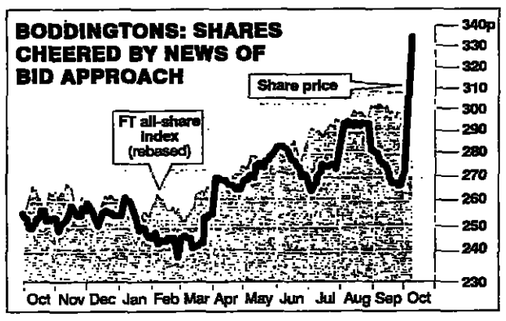
But trading generally remained dull with few institutional investors willing to open fresh positions.

In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt finished £5/16 lower at £105 31/32 as the number of contracts completed rose to 47,000. Among conventional issues, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 shed £¼ to finish £97 25/32, while, at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was unchanged at £102 5/16.

□ **NEW YORK**: The Dow Jones industrial average was down 0.72 at 4,739.95 at midday. Declining shares led advances by 11 to nine.

Stavely Industries continues to benefit from a buy recommendation, by Greig Middleton, the broker, with a rise of 2p to 216p. The shares have recovered some poise after hitting a low of 164p, but according to the broker, remain undervalued. The benefits of recent rationalisation are starting to filter through.

BODDINGTONS: SHARES CHEERED BY NEWS OF BID APPROACH



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 4739.95 (-0.72)
S&P Composite 580.24 (-1.23)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 18220.41 (+75.33)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 9888.04 (-51.91)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 462.68 (-1.24)

Sydney:
AO 2102.7 (-0.7)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2208.82 (-8.94)

Singapore:
Straits 2143.56 (+15.84)

Brussels:
General 7844.27 (-46.26)

Paris:
CAC-40 1800.32 (-3.55)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 691.70 (-1.10)

London:

FT 30	2625.4 (-1.9)
FT 100	3544.4 (+0.3)
FT-SE Mid 250	3991.3 (+7.5)
FT-SE-A 350	1771.5 (+0.8)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1422.43 (-0.55)
FT A All-Share	1750.75 (+0.91)
FT Non Financials	1672.63 (+0.44)
FT Fixed Interest	111.78 (+0.04)
FT Govt Secs	93.34 (+0.10)
Bargains	28867
SEAQ Volume	1008.4m
USM (Datastrm)	182.05 (+1.34)
US$	1.5825 (+0.0008)
German Mark	2.3633 (-0.0085)
Exchange Index	85.0 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£-ECU	1.2079
£-SDR	1.0590
RPI	149.9 Aug (3.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	148.6 Aug (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Cons Coal (50)	64	...
Euro Sales Fin	125	...
Hay & Robertson	39	...
Inner Workings	73	...
Mayflower (65)	88	...
Media Business	3½	...
MultiMedia (45)	61	...
Murray Vct	105	+ 2
Omnicare	88	...
Pemberstone	60	...
Pictet British (100)	102	...
Prest Nth End (400)	400	...
SCS Satlte Cms (125)	128	...
Universal Salv (149)	181	+ 3
Upton & Sthn Wts	½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Alumasc n/p (320)	102	+ 2
Anglo-East n/p (105)	16	...
Close Bros n/p (275)	36	+ 2
Forth Ports n/p (490)	103	...
Jhnsn Matt n/p (500)	81	- 3
RMC n/p (950)	138	- 8

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Royal Bk Scot	460p (+7p)
Boddington	358p (+86p)
Greene King	633p (+41p)
Regent Inns	600p (+12p)
Vaux Group	300p (+15p)
Wolverhampton D	547p (+8p)
Johnston	350p (+15p)
Acal	470p (+11p)
Unitech	567p (+8p)
Whessoe	157p (+8p)
Cadbury Schw	499p (+7p)

FALLS:

Danka Bs Sys	564p (-11p)
Filtronic	432p (-10p)
Vickers	255p (-7p)
GKN	810p (-9p)
Booker	381p (-6p)
Seaperfect	86p (-8p)
Eurocamp	235p (-8p)
Chiroscience	292p (-18p)
Asprey	95p (-8p)
GUS	593p (-10p)
Microfocus	693p (-12p)

Closing Prices Page 30

TEMPUS

Sold down the Rhône

There was a curious silence from the Fisons camp yesterday as over £300 million worth of shares in the pharmaceuticals company flickered through the city along fibre optic cables and into the hands of Rhone Poulenc Rorer, the French chemicals combine. The silence was interrupted later in the morning with a terse four line statement recommending shareholders to reject the offer, which the board believes, still undervalues Fisons.

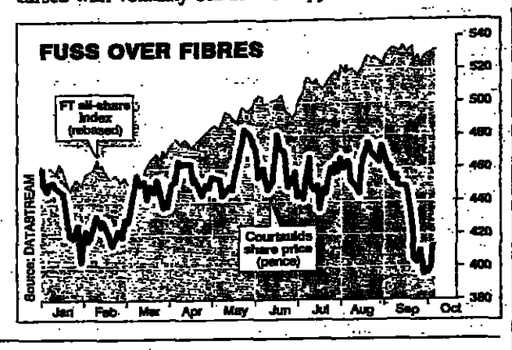
The French have yet to win the battle but there were distinct signs yesterday that quite a few hearts and minds had been won over. The propaganda that accompanied yesterday's new 265p cash offer dwells to some extent on the inadequacy of Fisons strategy for independence, criticising its lack of a drug pipeline. RPR points out that recent development deals — Fisons proudly announced three "arrangements" to cooperate with other drug companies in the development and marketing of new products using inhaler technology — would take years to come to fruition.

But the core problem that scares some Fisons investors is whether the company's strategy can work. Eschewing research-based drug development, Fisons wants to be a development and marketing machine for products invented by others. Buying-in drugs is expensive and comparisons with the earnings growth of companies like Medeva are misleading. Fisons is twice the size of the largest such company and the incremental sales advance needed to sustain profits growth may not be achievable without eroding margins. With no alternative bid in sight, more Fisons holders may choose to sell today rather than wait for their money.

Courtaulds

THE price of two raw materials, acrylonitrile and wood pulp, have been responsible for most of the volatility in Courtaulds shares, with a large part of the company's earnings branded poor quality. The materials, used by Courtaulds in the manufacture of acrylic fibre and viscose, soared in price last year but recently acrylonitrile has fallen back and wood pulp has plateaued.

For Courtaulds that offers an opportunity. The company made a brave decision to push through price increases on acrylic fibre in an attempt to preserve some of its shredded margins but the strategy rebounded. Yarn spinners rebelled and opted for cheaper cotton and the Chinese, who are typically big purchasers, failed to buy last summer compounding the slump in demand. Acrylic and viscose account for a large chunk of Courtaulds sales but the company is barely making any money on the former while margins on viscose, once in double digits, could be as low as 5 per cent. Tarred with the fibre brush, Courtaulds shares seem cursed with volatility but at their current low level they are discounting much of the bad news and any sign that wood pulp prices are slipping could send the shares sharply upwards. The market is waiting to hear more about raw materials when Courtaulds publishes its interims in November but investors prepared for a bumpy ride should buy now.



Brunel Group

THE management of the renamed BM Group must have been letting their guard down when they renamed the company Brunel after the visionary Victorian engineer. After bringing the company through hell and high water, this team is determined to take nothing for granted and, in typical downbeat fashion, the chairman qualified his confidence on prospects with warnings about the housing market and building industry.

Brunel does suffer an exposure to the housebuilding sector in Wadkin, the woodworking machinery company which sells its products to window manufacturers: businesses that are unlikely to be in expansionist mode. Likewise, Nettlefolds, the fasteners business, is suffering from the downturn in construction.

Elsewhere, the outlook is favourable and Brunel's profits growth is set to continue. Order books filled up late in the financial year with a 50 per cent rise in orders for tobacco machinery while web processing equipment, used in the paper industry, is enjoying a strong recovery on the back of a surge in demand for paper products.

Brunel made underlying profits of £4.3 million after a net interest bill of £4 million. Debt is still too high but the company is generating cash and has some £11 million of surplus property which will be sold over the next two years. If it turns its order book into sales, Brunel should make £7.5 million this year which values the company on 10 times earnings, hardly expensive.

Country Casuals

While the rest of the world baked on the beach, fashion retailers had a grim summer. No amount of discounting could tempt a disinterested public back into the high street. Severe markdowns have slimmed the margins of certain fashion retailers and even Kate Moss might find it difficult to squeeze into the gap between sales and costs. Country Casuals has fought profit-line anorexia to some extent with its timeless core brand showing some resilience to the fashion cash drain. But it has come a cropper with its sortie into outsize clothes and the younger market where it has sustained significant losses.

It was only a matter of time before the Country Casual shelves were raided for something bigger than the odd out-of-season garment. The board may dismiss the approach by the former chairman as opportunistic but investors at least will be pleased that anyone is looking at Country Casuals with an open cheque book in their hands.

The waif is not a fashionable figure around the stock market.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	893-891	Mar	1013-1010
Mar	922-921	May	1028-1025
May	940-939	Jul	unq
Jul	958-957	Sep	unq
Sep	975-973		
Dec	991-990	Volume: 2228	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	2360-2355	Jul	2130-2110
Jan	2252-2251	Sep	2090-2070
Mar	2215-2205	Nov	2070-2050
May	2170-2160	Volume: 2538	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	310.5-10.0
Spot. 371.0		Oct	284.0-84.0
Dec	334.4-34.0	Dec	283.0-81.2
Mar	317.5-16.5	Mar	282.3-78.7
May	313.5-13.0	Volume: 1073	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on October 4

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	99.01	101.07	124.63
(+/-)	+3.14	-1.13	-3.51
Eng/Wales:	99.01	101.23	123.77
(+/-)	+3.14	-1.61	-3.13
(%)	-5.0	+2.0	-11.0
Scotland:	unq	100.62	126.37
(+/-)		+0.12	-5.02
(%)		-7.0	-12.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	15.90	-0.50
Brent IS day (Nov)	15.70	-0.35
Brent IS day (Dec)	15.55	-0.35
W Texas Intermediate (Nov)	16.95	-0.45
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	16.70	-0.40

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 169 (-1)	Cr: 171 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	148 (-3)	150 (-2)
Non EEC IH Oct	149 (-2)	150 (-2)
Non EEC IH Nov	150 (-2)	151 (-3)
3.5 Fuel Oil	82 (n/c)	84 (n/c)
Naphtha	151 (+1)	153 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Oct	148.75-47.00	Jan	148.25-48.50
Nov	unq	Feb	148.00-48.25
Dec	148.00-48.25	Vol: 20576	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Nov	15.67-15 68	Feb	15.50 SLR
Dec	15.54-15.56	Mar	15 42 BID
Jan	15.48-15.50	Vol: 54507	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	115.15	Nov	107.95
Jan	117.75	Jan	110.95
Mar	119.75	Mar	112.95
May	121.80	May	115.70
Jul	122.90	Sep	103.50
Volume: 493		Volume: 114	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	284.0	275.5
May	unq	325.0
Jun	-	360.5
Volume: 160		

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Nov 90.75-91.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Oct 95	1785	1773	1778
Nov 95	1770	1770	1770
Dec 95	1750	1745	1745
Jan 96	1712	1700	1709
Vol: 155 lots		Open Interest: 3471	
Index 1841 -16			

(Official) (Volume prev day) LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff

	Cash: 2885.0-2886.0	3mths: 2860.0-2861.0	Vol: 1517875
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	601.00-602.00	611.00-611.50	127625
Lead ($/tonne)	1032.5-1033.5	1027.0-1027.5	378825
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	6290.0-6295.0	6320.0-6330.0	21105
Tin ($/tonne)	1746.0-1747.0	1778.0-1779.0	1536125
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	7955.0-7960.0	8080.0-8090.0	50484
Nickel ($/tonne)			

FT-SE INDEX (*3544)

	3400	3450	3500	3550	3600	3650
Calls						
Oct	151	10b	66	32½	13	4
Nov	174½	133½	98	67	41½	22½
Dec	199½	161½	126½	95½	70½	48½
Jan	218½	—	217½	—	165½	—
Jun	282½	—	217½	—	165½	—
Puts						
Oct	4½	8½	18	38	71	115
Nov	16½	25½	40½	62	87	121½
Dec	32½	44½	60	79	106	136½
Jan	44	—	76	—	123	—
Jun	92	—	124½	—	171	—

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Dec 95	3575.0	3588.0	3563.0	3570.0	7647
Previous open interest: 63729	Mar 96				3603.0	0
FT-SE 250	Dec 95				4020.0	0
Previous open interest: 3538	Mar 96					0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 95	93.45	93.46	93.43	93.45	8700
Previous open interest: 346384	Mar 96	93.56	93.56	93.50	93.52	7853
	Jun 96	93.53	93.54	93.46	93.49	8107
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 95				94.25	0
Previous open interest: 110	Mar 96				94.41	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 95	96.04	96.06	96.03	96.05	24501
Previous open interest: 741570	Mar 96	96.10	96.16	96.08	96.14	39688
Long Gilt	Dec 95	106-08	106-10	105-21	105-31	47526
Previous open interest: 101642	Mar 96	105-18	105-20	105-18	105-14	39
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 95	121.60	121.65	121.48	121.62	2304
	Mar 96	120.52	120.53	120.52	120.57	25
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 95	95.86	95.88	95.36	95.57	155084
Previous open interest: 186978	Mar 96	95.10	95.10	94.90	95.00	340
Three month ECU	Dec 95	94.36	94.39	94.35	94.36	2301
Previous open interest: 18157	Mar 96	94.45	94.50	94.45	94.47	242
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 95	97.65	97.66	97.61	97.64	2441
Previous open interest: 45115	Mar 96	97.73	97.73	97.67	97.72	2735
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 95	101.70	102.15	101.38	101.84	44015
Previous open interest: 44945	Mar 96	101.60	101.60	101.50	101.50	45

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6% Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7% Low 6% Week fixed: 6¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅝; 3 mth 6⅝. Sell: 2 mth 6⅝; 3 mth 6⅝.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝
Interbank:	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝
Overnight: open 6¾, close 7.					
Local Authority Deps:	6⅝	n/a	6⅝	6¾	6½
Sterling CDs:	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6¾	6⅝-6¾	6¾-6⅝
Dollar CDs:	5.60	n/a	5.60	5.60	5.66
Building Society CDs:	6¾-6¾	6¾-6¾	6¾-6¾	6⅝-6¾	6⅝-6¾

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5¾	5¾-5⅞	5⅝-5¾	5¾-5⅞	5¼-4½
Deutschemark:	4¼-3¾	4¼-3¼	4¼-3⅝	4¼-3⅝	4¼-3¼
French Franc:	5¾-5½	6¼-5⅝	6¼-6¼	6¼-6¼	6¼-5¼
Swiss Franc:	2¾-2¼	2¾-2¼	2¾-2¾	2¾-2¾	2¾-1¼
Yen:	⅛-⅛	⅛-⅛	⅛-⅛	⅛-⅛	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $383.00-383.40 Close: $383.00-383.50 High: $383.00-383.50
Low: $382.30-382.80 AM: $383.35 PM: $383.25

Krugerrand: $384.00-386.00 (£242.00-244.00)

Platinum: $412.50 (£260.40) Silver: 85.35 (£3.375) Palladium: $134.00 (£84.60)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Oct 5

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5290-2.5455	2.5290-2.5322	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¾pr
Brussels	46.46-46.79	46.46-46.56	14-7pr	34-23pr
Copenhagen	8.7720-8.8250	8.7720-8.7920	1¼-¼pr	2¾-1¾pr
Dublin	0.9704-0.9832	0.9802-0.9827	10-7pr	23-17pr
Frankfurt	2.2543-2.2747	2.2543-2.2574	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¼pr
Lisbon	236.39-238.15	236.39-237.02	42-50dis	143-161dis
Madrid	195.50-196.41	195.50-195.79	43-52dis	135-153dis
Milan	2544.80-2557.50	2544.80-2548.00	2-0dis	34-27dis
Montreal	2.1136-2.1207	2.1136-2.1166	0.13-0.02pr	0.20-0.05pr
New York	1.5828-1.5866	1.5842-1.5852	0.13-0.10pr	0.32-0.27pr
Oslo	9.9330-9.9860	9.9330-9.9480	1¼-¼pr	4-2¾pr
Paris	7.8220-7.8760	7.8220-7.8360	¼-¼pr	¾-½pr
Stockholm	10.9860-11.0530	10.9860-11.0130	1¼-2¼ds	5¾-7¼ds
Tokyo	158.47-159.79	158.47-158.75	1¾pr	2¾-2½pr
Vienna	15.89-16.01	15.89-15.92	3¼-3pr	10¾-9¾pr
Zurich	1.8139-1.8284	1.8139-1.8167	¼-¼pr	2-1¾pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3145-1.3154
Austria	10.07-10.08
Belgium (Conv)	29.44-29.45
Canada	1.3353-1.3358
Denmark	5.5555-5.5585
France	4.9625-4.9655
Germany	1.4312-1.4317
Hong Kong	7.7308-7.7318
Ireland	1.6123-1.6143
Italy	1608.00-1609.00
Japan	100.43-100.53
Malaysia	2.5368-2.5378
Netherlands	1.6030-1.6040
Norway	6.2895-6.2933
Portugal	149.77-149.89
Singapore	1.4285-1.4295
Spain	123.63-123.68
Sweden	6.9404-6.9504
Switzerland	1.1485-1.1495

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5826-1.5853
Australia dollar	2.0827-2.0854
Bahrain dinar	0.5920-0.5040
Brazil real*	1.5160-1.5202
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.7070-0.7170
Finland markka	6.7550-6.8710
Greece drachma	366.75-373.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.2448-12.2541
India rupee	53.23-54.19
Indonesia rupiah	3563.0-3631.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4710-0.4810
Malaysia ringgit	4.0180-4.0222
New Zealand dollar	2.3989-2.4023
Pakistan rupee	49.90 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8875-6.0135
Singapore dollar	2.2635-2.2665
S Africa rand (com)	5.7590-5.8610
U A E dirham	5.7650-5.8890

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3I	302	Land Secs	664
ASDA Gp	11,000	Legal & Gen	2,100
Abbey Nti	5,300	Lloyds Bk	2,200
Allied Dom	5,100	Marks Spr	2,200
Argyll Gp	4,900	Mid Elec	132
Aryo Wggns	1,400	NatWst Bk	2,800
Asl Foods	72	Nat Power	4,000
BAA	5,800	NW Water	2,400
BAT Inds	6,000	P & O	1,300
BOC	599	Pearson	1,000
BP	4,400	PowerGen	1,100
BSkyB	7,800	Prudential	5,900
BTR	7,100	REXAM	1,200
BT	6,600	RMC	283
Bk of Scot	8,500	RTZ	880
Barclays	2,400	Rank Org	2,800
Boots	3,100	Reckitt Col	1,500
Blue Circle	795	Redland	1,100
Boots	569	Reed Intl	828
Bae	1,500	Rentokil	1,800
BA	5,800	Reuters	3,700
Brit Gas	4,300	Rolls Royce	7,200
Brit Steel	13,000	Royal Ins	2,200
Burmah Cstl	375	Ryl Bk Scot	3,400
Cable Wire	3,000	Salisbury	5,600
Cadbury	5,700	Schroders	34
Carlton Cms	855	Scot & New	3,700
Cm Union	5,000	Scot Power	3,000
Cookson	299	Sears	1,100
Courtaulds	1,000	Svrn Trent	1,500
De La Rue	177	Shell Trans	2,900
Enterpr Oil	7,000	Siebe	493
Fisons	212,000	SmKl Bch	9,000
Forte	1,200	Smith Nph	8,900
GKN	714	Sthern Elec	4,000
GRE	1,300	Std Chartd	2,100
GUS	2,400	Sun Alince	2,400
Gen Acc	1,300	TI Gp	343
Gen Elec	5,200	TSB	9,600
Glaxo Well	7,000	Tate & Lyle	1,100
Granada	5,300	Tesco	4,800
Grand Met	4,400	Thames W	864
Guinness	3,800	Thrn EMI	578
HSBC	3,500	Tomkins	945
Hanson	17,000	Unilever	1,600
ICI	1,000	Vodafone	1,900
Inchcape	1,500	Whitbread	2,000
Kingfisher	2,200	Wilms Hld	770
LASMO	4,400	Wolseley	599
Ladbroke	1,200	Zeneca	2,800



LIFFE OPTIONS

	Calls Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Puts Jan	Apr
Allid Dom	500	28	36½	43½	1	12½	17
(*525)	550	2	9½	18½	25½	40½	44½
Argyll	300	17½	27	35½	1½	9	13
(*349)	360	1½	13	20½	19½	25	28½
ASDA	100	7	10½	13	1	3	5
(*105)	110	2	5	8½	6	9½	9½
Boots	550	36	46	50	0½	7½	12½
(*584)	600	3	17½	29½	16	30	34½
Br Airways	460	14½	27	40	5½	14½	20½
(*469)	500	1	10½	21½	33½	38	43
BP	460	26½	36	42	11	16½	17½
(*465)	500	2	14	20½	35	24½	30½
Br Steel	160	16	18½	22½	0	3	5
(*175½)	180	3½	6½	11	6	11½	13½
C & W	420	10	26	37	7	19½	24
(*422)	460	0½	11½	20	38	44½	47½
CU	550	43½	50	60½	0	7½	12
(*592)	600	6	28	39	13	25	39½
ICI	800	35½	50	72	1½	14½	26½
(*832½)	850	5½	29	45½	30½	34½	50
Kingfishr	500	14	33	45½	5½	17½	25½
(*508)	550	0½	11½	22	42	47	56½
Land Sec	600	16½	30½	42	2½	13	19½
(*612½)	650	0½	8½	18	37½	44	48
M & S	420	11	23	32½	2½	10½	15
(*428)	460	0	6½	13½	32	39½	38½
Nat West	600	30	50½	57½	1½	14	25
(*626½)	650	3½	23	30	25½	37	50
Sainsbury	420	14	27	34	1½	9	12
(*432)	460	0	9½	14½	28	32½	34½
Shell	750	16	36	47½	3½	10½	22
(*761½)	800	1	12½	22	38½	39½	48½
Smkl Bch	650	17	37½	52	9½	19½	27
(*662½)	700	1	14½	28	38	47½	54
Storehse	300	6½	17	22½	4	11	14½
(*302½)	330	0	5	10	27½	30½	33
Trafalgar	30	1½	4½	7	1½	4½	7
(*30)	35	0	2½	5	5	10	10½
Unilever	1250	26	53	75½	5	22½	37
(*1268)	1300	3½	25	48½	33½	48	63
Zeneca	1150	28½	80½	103½	10½	41	63
(*1167)	1200	6	56	78	38	66	88½

	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
Grnd Met.	420	23½	30½	37	7	17½	20½
(*432½)	460	7½	14½	18½	30	40½	43
Ladbroke	160	10	15½	18	2	5½	7½
(*166½)	180	1½	5½	8½	14	16	18½
Utd Bisc	260	21	30	35	3½	8½	11½
(*278½)	280	9	18½	24	11	17	21

	Calls Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Puts Oct	Jan	Apr
BAA	460	36	45	55	0	5	8½
(*459)	500	5	19½	30½	9	20	24
Thames W	550	11½	27	40½	7½	22½	29½
(*552½)	600	0½

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

Merger road at BTR

BTR, the conglomerate, is in delicate merger talks. Its cash balances will swell by at least £250,000 when it finally merges the A1 registration number it inherited when it bought Dunlop with the 1A registration plate owned by Car Marks of Hull, specialists in marketing numbers plates.

A1 and 1A are being offered for sale as the ultimate pair in road numbers, and the asking price is £380,000, or near offer, plus VAT.

BTR has been the owner of the number for around 15 years and now the money should be put to good use.

Royal role

WHAT'S up at Royal? As speculation about which life offices are trying to acquire their smaller brethren reaches fever pitch, Royal Insurance has made an intriguing new appointment. After the departure in August of Mike Dowdy, its finance director, Royal has finally found a replacement. Step forward Paul Spencer, 45, who will play "an important role in the future development of the group". He arrives fresh from nine years as associate director and treasurer of Hanson, the Anglo-American takeover specialist.

City dazzlers

THE London International Circus Festival has been dazzling City whiz-kids. On Wednesday night dealers at the First National Bank of Boston found they could not see their screens to deal when the lights at the Big Top at nearby West India Quay were turned on. The circus, which has acrobats, clowns, jugglers and trapeze artists from all over the world, was asked to turn down its lights so that trading could continue. The circus folk obliged. After the spotlights were adjusted, the red and blue of the bank's dealing screens became visible once again.



Arm saves arm

JULIAN Ogilvie Thompson, the urbane shootin' and fishin' chairman of De Beers, certainly knows his priorities. JOT, as he is known, snapped his left wrist in a shooting accident in the summer, and now rests it on a cushion while working at the office. How did you break it? one well-wisher inquired. "I stumbled while on a shoot, but managed to save a very expensive shotgun. The arm was sacrificed," JOT said.

Green fingers

SOME 25 per cent of the population is allergic to jewellery containing nickel and so the Sheffield Assay Office has stolen a lead on London by introducing a nickel-free mark. At the launch yesterday Ashley Carson, the Assay Master, presented certificates to Joden International of Brighton, the first manufacturer, and Boots, first retailer, to secure the mark. The Sheffield Assay Office, founded in 1773, hopes that the costume jewellery trade will now have no excuse to not offer high quality rings, which do not turn fingers green.

COLIN CAMPBELL

BT takes a calculated stake in Labour's election prospects

Hidden warmth of cold fish hooked by a gaffe


Vallance: chairman's gravitas

NOT LONG after Sir Iain Vallance was appointed BT chairman, he threw open his home in Dulwich, southeast London, for a "meet the family" profile (Jon Ashworth writes). It could have come straight out of *Hello!* Sir Iain pounding away on the piano, with wife and children looking on. Sir Iain in the kitchen, handing round the tea. "He reminded me of a matinée hero from silent film days," wrote the author, "6ft 3in, with slightly greying hair swept back in an understated quiff. He is confident, composed and charming, just the sort of chap to rescue a young damsel tied to the railway lines."

Silent movies were not exactly what came to mind this February, when emotions were running high over the long hours worked by junior doctors. Sir Iain, attempting to justify his £633,000 salary package (since reduced), told investigating MPs that he worked 70 hours a week, and said: "I would quite like a job as a junior doctor. It might be relaxing."

The gaffe was all the more remarkable coming from the lips of someone renowned for never putting a foot wrong. "He shows no emotion," says one observer. "He is diffident, even dull, and thinks very carefully before he speaks." Others describe him as a cold fish.

Sir Iain was born in Perthshire in 1943, an only child. His father ran the Post Office for Scotland and Sir Iain had a comfortable childhood. He read English at Brasenose College, Oxford, and was keen to break into television journalism in America, before the Vietnam draft made him think again. He joined the Post Office in 1966, and became a director of British Telecom when it was spun off in 1981. He took over as chairman in 1987, and was knighted in the 1994 New Year's Honours. His wife Liz is an academic who has recently written a book on business ethics.

It is hard to warm to Sir Iain, yet his wife once declared: "He's not at all pompous and lacks the desire to impress. One newspaper article described him as having occasional flashes of personal warmth, which had them [the children] in stitches. For weeks afterwards, they would pass him on the stair and say 'give us an occasional flash then'."

Sir Iain joined the Post Office in the same week as Bill Cockburn, now chief executive. He said: "Iain had the great financial and analytical skills. I was the general manager. Don't be misled by the appearance. There is a good humour there. He comes over with his chairman's gravitas, but he had it when he was a junior manager. He was always certain he was going to be chairman."

Unplugged — the party line that switched allegiance

A rift with the Government made a Labour pact easier, says **Philip Bassett**

Bizarre hardly describes it: former Conservative Party chairman Lord Tebbit, sitting in a TV studio on the balcony of the Labour party conference yesterday, attacking the Government and backing Labour's information superhighway deal with BT.

Tony Blair declared that the Government had shot itself in the foot after Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, claimed that Labour had no agreement with BT — only to find Lord Tebbit, the Conservative minister who privatised it and who now sits on its board as a director, confirming plainly that what Mr Blair said in his conference speech this week about the deal with BT was "just a matter of fact".

The day started with Mr Lang's attempts to deride the deal and ended with BT chairman Sir Iain Vallance arriving in Brighton last night for talks, dinner and late-night drinks with Mr Blair and his team.

While business and politics can make uneasy bedfellows, BT's move is a clear indication of the growing expectations among business leaders that Labour will win the next general election.

Mr Blair's announcement of a deal with BT was clearly political dynamite, with its implication that Labour will beat the Conservatives. The telecommunications giant would be allowed by a future Labour government to compete in the broadband market and provide entertainment and other services, including TV and film, in return for for free link-ups to its new upgraded network for every school, college, library and hospital in the country.

BT was prepared for political flak from the Conservatives, and senior BT managers were largely unperturbed by Mr Lang's claim that there was and could be no such deal. "We know what we have agreed, and so does the DTI," said a senior BT figure yesterday. "Of course there isn't a contract. There can't be a contract because Labour is not, as an opposition party, in a position to agree one. But there is an understanding, an agreement. There is a difference between a contract and a deal — and Mr Lang knows that," the BT official added.

Semantics apart, Labour was delighted with the astonishing intervention by Lord Tebbitt, who was simply supporting something that senior BT management had worked on for some time.

The bad blood between BT and the Government over broadband networks stems back to the Government's decision in its 1991 telecommunications White Paper about the provision of entertainment services. Having urged cable companies to enter the market, ministers felt they had to stick by them and said the decision would not be reviewed until 2001.

BT lobbied hard against this and was delighted when the all-party Commons trade and industry select committee, which has a Tory majority, recommended last year that the Government should reverse its decision and give BT access to the market.

In November, however, the Government rejected the committee's recommendations. In reply, Mr Blair asked Chris Smith, Shadow Heritage Secretary, to convene a working party on broadband technology.

BT, along with Mercury and the cable companies, held talks with the working group, and in July produced its own report, *Communicating Britain's Future*. Detailed talks ensued on Labour's proposals to end the uncertainty for BT and other telephony providers. Alan Rudge, BT's deputy managing director, and John Butler, its director of regulatory affairs, were closely involved in the talks with Mr Smith, his deputy Graham Allen, and Labour officials.

The talks were finalised last week in a faxed exchange of letters between Mr Rudge and Jonathan Powell, the deft Whitehall operator who now heads Mr Blair's private office.

Though there were some caveats in terms of timing, the letter made clear that BT in principle would be prepared to provide free connections for public institutions concurrently with developing a new national network to carry broadband services.

Hours before Mr Blair gave his speech, the relevant section was faxed to BT which confirmed that it accurately reflected the deal.

The outcome is that BT gains access to a key market; Labour gets the kudos of a deal with business and the Government gets a bloody nose — with the biggest punch landed by its own former party chairman and the toughest Tory of all.



Groundwork for Britain's next technological leap forward is being laid today

Hi-tech line for every home

BT believes that Tony Blair's dream of bringing the information superhighway to every public building, would also bring the technology to all of the nation's 20 million homes (Nick Nuttall writes).

The company is reluctant to put a cost and a timescale on bringing so-called broad band services to every inch of Britain. But privately engineers estimate the cost at £15 billion and believe it could be done in five to ten years.

Technically the task presents few difficulties. Over recent years BT has made 85 per cent of its exchanges digital. Its main trunk network is now almost entirely linked by fibre optics — the high-tech cable needed to deliver computer services such as the Internet, a bewildering array of telephony products and entertainment packages like video-on-demand and films.

Connections run from this trunk network into thousands of businesses. Around 100 universities and colleges are plugged in through an education network called Super-Janet. BT's main task would be to take this skeleton, snaking in underground ducts across the country, and extend it to the millions of other buildings, including libraries, hospitals, schools and homes.

Most homes and many public institutions are still served by copper wires, which have limited capacity. But BT said yesterday that replacing these with fibre would cause few disruptions to transport or other services, because the infrastructure of ducts was already in place.

The benefit to BT is that in return the company gets access to millions of potential new customers for entertainment services which, under existing licences designed to protect the cable companies, it is not allowed to serve.

Wiring the 20 million or so homes the company serves would go hand in hand with Mr Blair's dream of linking public institutions. Currently BT has no incentive to put fibre into homes because all that most people want is to make telephone calls and possibly transmit faxes.

However, there are a vast number of services, including multimedia for libraries and telemedicine for hospitals, that could boost revenues and might tempt BT to install fibre optic cables without a change in government licences.

BT also replaces old copper cables with fibre optic as a matter of course. But one official said without a change in the licence allowing BT to beam entertainment into households, replacement would be so slow that most homes would remain copper-wired well into the future.

Cable firms cry foul over deal

THE cable companies claim that by the end of this year they will have invested £5 billion on a broadband cable infrastructure in the UK. They expect to spend a further £5 billion by the year 2000 (Alexandra Frean writes).

They are therefore confused by Labour's deal with British Telecom. They want to know whether Mr Blair's speech superseded the party's policy document on the information superhighway, which was broadly welcomed by cable companies in July.

Allen Saunders, director of corporate communications for Nynex, said he had received a personal assurance from Tony Blair on Wednesday night that the policy document still stood.

"That document quite clearly said that BT would be allowed to compete with cable companies, on a franchise by franchise basis, seven years after the cable operators had introduced telephony," he said. "If Labour's framework really has not changed since then, then we do not have a problem."

Cable companies have already connected 500 schools and colleges to their networks free. Nynex, for example, is shortly to announce a project under which it will connect five secondary schools a year to its network for five years. Each school will be given £25,000 to spend on equipment.

Unlike the cable companies, British Telecom is prevented from offering broadcast services, such as a cable television or film service, through its network on a national basis until 2002.

It can, however, offer cable television by bidding for cable franchises on an area by area basis. The company owned several cable franchises in the 1980s, but took a decision by the early Nineties to move out of the business.

At present, the only cable franchise it holds is for Westminster in London.

Putting the heat on Lloyd's

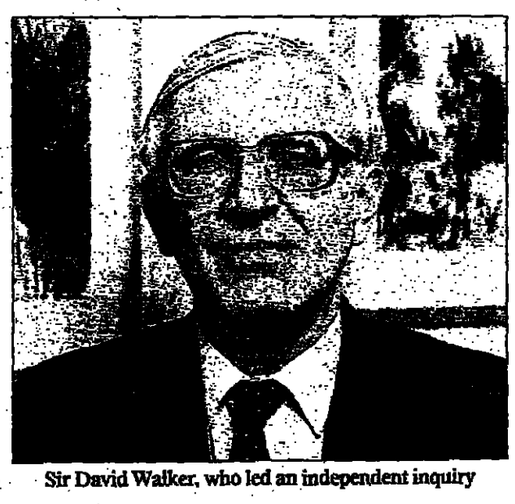
Alfred Doll-Steinberg insists names can force an inquiry

Last month Lloyd's announced that it saw no "immediate need" for an independent inquiry into whether asbestosis liabilities were concealed from names in the early 1980s. The belated creation of reserves against those liabilities caused the bulk of the £8 billion losses Lloyd's has declared in the past four years.

It is believed by many in the Lloyd's community that the hierarchy must have known at least since 1982 that massive reserves had to be created against Lloyd's looming asbestosis liabilities.

Yet far from alerting its general membership, Lloyd's embarked on a vigorous drive to increase capacity. New names were recruited and existing names were persuaded to increase their underwriting. As a result, in the five years from 1983, Lloyd's capacity doubled to £14 billion — a growth rate of 15 per cent per annum compared with a sedate 3 per cent for many years previously. Yet the rate of growth of Lloyd's income remained unchanged at 3 per cent per annum. It is thus hard to argue with the conviction of many names that they were recruited to provide an additional cushion for the Lloyd's professionals when the day of reckoning came.

Lloyd's decision that there should be no independent inquiry relies on an opinion by Freshfields, Lloyd's solicitors. Lloyd's had instructed Freshfields to look at a submission on the subject made by John Donner, an aggrieved name, and, according to Lloyd's, Freshfields had found that Mr Donner "had failed to produce any material to support" his allegations. Lloyd's will not circulate the Freshfields report.


Sir David Walker, who led an independent inquiry

The most remarkable aspect of this affair has been the lack of any public reaction from aggrieved names' representatives. But then, not only do some of the best-funded action groups seem to have metamorphosed into adjuncts of the Lloyd's structure, (rather like the members' agents, also originally created as protectors of the names' interests), most of the groups' work now tends to be done for them by lawyers whose focus is litigation. While litigation is unavoidable to resolve some disputes, other problems do have to be tackled more directly.

Contrast the current situation with one four years ago when the complaints by the LMX spiral losers about professional malpractice were being blandly dismissed by Lloyd's because those losers also "had failed to produce any material to support" their allegations.

In late 1991, the Gooda Walker Action Group, the largest group of LMX losers, reacted vigorously against this attempt to sweep an inconvenient scandal under the carpet. The resulting "blizzard of unfavourable publicity against Lloyd's", as one newspaper described it, culminated in a meeting on February 13, 1992, between a delegation of MPs, most notably Paul Marland, accompanied by myself — then chairman of the Gooda Walker Action Group — and John Redwood, then the minister responsible for the City. Mr Redwood acted decisively. Within ten days, Lloyd's had been "persuaded" to appoint Sir David Walker to conduct an independent inquiry. Sir David "produced the material to support" the allegations and his report became the base from which the Gooda Walker names and then the Feltrim names constructed the cases to win their enormous damages last year.

If aggrieved names can no longer look to their own action group leaders to pursue their grievances vigorously, where can they turn? They might consider lobbying their MP. Earlier this year, the House of Commons Treasury and Civil Service Committee summoned the Lloyd's top brass for some harsh questioning. Soon afterwards, Lloyd's rushed out a new settlement of £2.8 billion, as opposed to its previous "final" offer of £900 million.

If the committee were to summon the Lloyd's brass again, Lloyd's might find an "immediate need" for an independent inquiry after all.

Alfred Doll-Steinberg is co-founder of the Gooda Walker Action Group and was its first chairman.

C·O·P·I

CANADIAN OVERSEAS PACKAGING INDUSTRIES LIMITED

(incorporated under the laws of Canada)

EARNINGS ANNOUNCEMENT
Audited results for the year to 30th June 1995

(all funds expressed in thousands of Canadian dollars except for the common share data)

	1994/95 (C$000) C$159,912	1993/94 (C$000) C$118,367
Sales		
Earnings from Operations	9,505	6,953
Less: Minority Interest	434	448
	9,071	6,505
Investment Income	9,129	7,221
Gain on Sale of Marketable Securities	13,478	14,804
Share in net earnings of affiliated companies	2,489	538
Foreign Currency Gains	544	3,317
Earnings before taxation	34,711	32,385
Taxation	2,895	3,983
Net Earnings	C$31,816	C$28,402
Earnings per Common Share	C$1.81	C$1.62

The Directors today have declared a regular dividend on the 17,578,125 Common Shares N.P.V. payable to Shareholders registered at the close of business on 17th November 1995 at the rate of 65 cents (Canadian) per share. The comparative figure for 1994 was 62 cents per share. The payment date for this dividend is 8th December 1995.
The Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30th June 1995 together with the Notice of the Thirty Fourth Annual Meeting will be posted to Shareholders on the 20th October 1995 with the usual press announcement appearing the same day. The Thirty Fourth Annual Meeting will be held on 28th November 1995. Full details will be circulated with the Notice of the Meeting.

5th October 1995
Suite 1212, Brunswick Square, Germain Street,
Saint John, New Brunswick, CANADA E2L 4V1.

By Order of the Board,
M. C. Johnston, Q.C.,
Director and Secretary.

Shares all square at close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vld %	P/E
566	413	Abbey Nat	564	- 2	4.4	11.1
339	350	Allied Irish	338	- 3	4.0	6.5
360	198	Anz New	353	- 5	5.1	6.1
394½	253½	Bank America	393½	- 959	4.2	11.7
259½	197½	Bank Scotland	247		3.2	10.5
778	557½	Barclays	751	- 3	4.7	10.2
407	308	Bk of Ireland	401	- 3	4.6	9.2
525	418	Cater Allen	488		7.4	7.8
46½p	24½p	Co-op	44½p	- 8½		
340½	216½	Close Bros A	316		7.5	
1762½	1129½	Comm'l BK	1742½	- 12½	3.7	
1312	997½	Dn Ire Ban	1146½	- 9½	9.5	
2351½	2175	Deveron Ir	3605½	- 6½	3.4	
96½	64½	Espirito Sante	77½		11.5	
1611	1192½	First Bank	1317½	- 3½	10.4	
490	395	Gerrard Nat	449	- 3	6.3	14.5
233	180	Hambros	221	- 1	6.0	12.6
958	585	HSBC	935	- 1	4.5	17.1
1099	579	HSBC Hdg	1073	- 1	3.7	18.8
333	228	Irish Permt	316	- 6	2.6	7.3
663	393	Jacobs (L)	436		5.9	24.5
165	85	King Shaxson	137		6.2	15.6
710	530	Lloyds	690	+ 1	5.8	10.8
1592	978	Nat Aust Bk	1552		6.6	9.6
662	454	Nat Westm	647	+ 1	4.6	9.7
3008	2150	Ottoman Bank	3620		9.4	3.5
67	45	Rea Brothers	46		5.4	16.1
476	373½	Rnl Bk Scot	464	- 7	7.9	11.1
1478	904½	Schroders	1355	- 1	1.3	19.0
1180	853½	Schroders NVtg	1119	- 1	1.6	15.9
110	81	Singer & Fried	105		4.3	11.2
481	274	Stand Chartd	470	- 2	3.2	12.1
379½	317	TSB	374	- 2	3.4	11.5
121	70	Union	117		3.3	
1152½	994½	Wells Fargo	1125½		3.6	
367½	211	Westpac	356½	- 1½	4.2	
395	300	Wmstr	395		4.8	16.9

BREWERIES

231	143	Adnt Hldgs	219			0.4
639	467	Bass	636		4.1	15.5
764	539	Boddington	758	+ 66	3.2	16.1
1348	1139	Brazpnt S Bra	1175		4.3	16.7
196	151	Elcnote Fin	175	- 1	3.7	16.1
71	51	Robert Brwng	68		3.0	
733	575	Scot Nwcstle	725		3.6	19.1
1407	1021	Greenalls Gp	1387	- 9½	3.2	18.7
628	468	Invrne Hldn	621	- 3	3.4	16.9
364	280	Marsh Christ	363	- 1	4.5	12.3
198	150	Mckenzie	155		4.5	10.8
3425	3188	Mltn Jt	3188		4.5	16.9
419	319	Morshead	316	+ 1	3.8	16.7
727	566	Mt Gord Perc	716		3.4	15.9
5431	3915	Mvelaser	515	- 2	2.7	15.5
11	6	Paramount			5.5	
604	301	Regnt Invst	600	+ 12	1.5	23.8
2000	1357½	SA Breweries	1987½		4.7	16.5
1	1	Shell & Nwe	61½p	- ½		
1116	93	Shpwrights	105	- 2	5.4	9.7
1210	1011	Utd Biscuits	1203½	- 15	4.1	16.9
448	348	Wellingtn Un	433	- ½	4.4	16.3
561	461	Whitbread	561		3.4	16.3
1574	1241	Whitbrd A	1562	- 4	3.4	16.2
1372	1001	Wilson Smiths	1342	- 6	3.7	12.4
138	101	Wolvtyn Gt	112	- 1	6.1	16.3

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

150	125	Abbey	135		4.9	8.8
196	153	Aggs	181		3.8	13.5
68	56	Amec	66		6.4	12.3
1	1	Andrews Sykes	1p			
492	412	Ashtead	480	- 2	1.0	14.9
106	84	Ashtenhurst	95		5.8	8.4
99	82	Bailey (Ken) Con	94		4.9	6.5
1	30½	Barratts	1			
2679	198	Barrett Devpt	197	- 4	4.8	
1352	1252	Bectv Homes	1350	+ 4	4.4	
264	180	Bellway	256	- 1	4.0	11.5
1	1	Benarch	1½		3.5	8.6
421	315	Berkeley Gp	414	- 2	1.9	15.7
245	168	Bett Bros	169		3.7	9.1
249	196	Bovis	208		4.3	9.8
274	195	Brandon Hire	196		2.0	19.5
84	59	Brdmead Grp	78		3.8	5.5
1	1	Br Bldg & Eng	1½	- ½	21.1	6.3
124	105	Bryant	112		5.6	
207	98	CALA	110		3.6	
1	1	Cmpsite & Arm	1½			19.8
64	49	Clarke T	62		9.8	12.6
74	67	Costain	74	- 2		
110	61	Countryside	67		7.8	9.8
81	58	Crest Nicholson	58		5.0	7.1
98	70	Cruickshk	90		5.6	7.9
293	165	Eve Group	182		7.6	9.7
19	13	Galliford	17	+ 2	7.6	
863	753	Gleeson (M)	753		7.4	14.4
98	68	Green (Eng)	68		5.9	
253	178	Hamilton Fans	238	+ 1	1.5	21.6
189	115	Hanson-Stain	133½		1.5	15.4
93	73	Higgs & Hill	73		4.1	14.6
14	14	Hmpsn Hdgcrt	15		6.7	11.5
1	1	Hi-Spec	1½			
156	96	Hillsdn	136		3.8	12.2
231	185	Lang (J)	223	- 5	5.0	27.6
96	82	Lang & Pk Cv Pf	90	- 3	8.9	
140	110	Lon Clydesdle	140		3.1	16.7
18	15	Lowry (Uk)	18	- 2	8.1	15
210	185	Manders Uk	185		3.7	10.2
161	104	McAlpine Uk	128		6.0	14.2
82	58	McCarthy & S	58			15.7
78	51	Morgan Sindall	75		1.4	
706	55	Mowlem Uj	62		4.8	30.9
216	163	Persimmon	168	+ 1	7.1	11.6
2400	1600	Pochins	1818½	- 59½	2.2	
126	98	Prowting	98	- 1	13.8	12.6
89	75	Ramc Ind	89		13.0	5.0
53	45	Secure Retire	50		2.3	9.5
128	93	Redbrnt	110		3.6	
398	345	Sherrit Hldgs	375		2.7	13.7
211	171	Shorgrn	211		6.2	12.4
358	268	Spandex	358		10.2	21.5
176	150	Tay Homes	151		5.5	10.5
130	103	Taylor Woodrow	116	- 1	3.6	26.9
562	451	Tilbury Dougls	549		6.5	14.8
39	33	Tmns Hme	21		4.8	17.5
33	6	Trenchermore	6			3.4
30	9½	Tty Group	10		6.2	14.0
109	79	Wimpey	105	- 1	5.4	9.3
116	93	Wimpole Hmes	105		5.4	9.7
80	37	Wmpy Hldgs	42		4.5	9.4
168	133	Yeadon	162	- 5	4.4	12.7
5½		Yeggar	3½			
174	124	Yorkon (Ed)	149		3.8	11.0
372	304	Young Stmpa	344	- 6	3.7	12.4
138	101	Zetter Gr	112	- 1	6.1	16.3

BUSINESS SERVICES

95	51	Chapman Hldg	51			
95	51	Clarke (Wm)	51			
1	1	Dawson Hldgs	1			
6	5	Dr Bookbinder	5½		6.4	26.1
1	1	Elem Gp	1			
1	1	Enterprise	1		1.7	12.5
67	54	Expamet	67		6.7	16.4
20	13	Exprss Nwspprs	13		1.3	18.9
1	1	Fkbrdge Hldgs	1			
1	1	Forward Tech	1			
1	1	Gaming Int	1			
1	1	Gascoigne	1			
1	1	Gibbs & Dandy	1			
1	1	Gomme Hldgs	1			
1	1	Hanover Int	1			
1	1	Hardy Oil & Gas	1			
1	1	Hartstone	1			
1	1	Hawtin	1			
1	1	Hayden	1			
1	1	Hazlewood	1			
1	1	Hemmington	1			
1	1	Hewden Stuart	1			
1	1	Hickson Int	1			
1	1	Hillsdown Hldgs	1			
1	1	Hollis Metal	1			
1	1	Holmes Protect	1			
1	1	Hornby	1			
1	1	Hoskins & Horton	1			
1	1	Howard Tenens	1			
1	1	Hunting	1			
1	1	Huntleigh Tech	1			
1	1	Hyder	1			
1	1	ICC	1			
1	1	ICM	1			
1	1	IMI	1			
1	1	Ingenta	1			
1	1	Inspec Group	1			
1	1	Interserve	1			
1	1	Intertek Testng	1			
1	1	Ipeco	1			
1	1	Isis Group	1			
1	1	Jarvis	1			
1	1	Jenkins & Harris	1			
1	1	Jessops	1			
1	1	Johnson Fry	1			
1	1	Johnson Group	1			
1	1	Johnson Matthey	1			
1	1	Jones Stroud	1			
1	1	Kalon Group	1			
1	1	Kelt Energy	1			
1	1	Kenwood Hldgs	1			
1	1	Kleeneze	1			
1	1	Kvaerner	1			
1	1	Lamont Hldgs	1			
1	1	Lancashire Hldg	1			
1	1	Lasmo	1			
1	1	Lawrence Hldgs	1			
1	1	Lawson Mardon	1			
1	1	Lex Service	1			
1	1	Lilleshall	1			
1	1	Lindustries	1			
1	1	Linread	1			
1	1	Lloyds Chemists	1			
1	1	Logica	1			
1	1	Lonrho	1			
1	1	Low & Bonar	1			
1	1	Lucas Inds	1			
1	1	Lucas Varity	1			
1	1	Luminar	1			
1	1	Lynx Group	1			
1	1	MFI Furniture	1			
1	1	MK Electric	1			
1	1	Macallan Glen	1			
1	1	Macfarlane Grp	1			
1	1	Mackay Hanna	1			
1	1	Mackinnon	1			
1	1	Magnet	1			
1	1	Manchester Utd	1			
1	1	Manders	1			
1	1	Manganese Bron	1			
1	1	Marchwiel	1			
1	1	Marley	1			
1	1	Marshalls	1			
1	1	Matthew Clark	1			
1	1	Matthews Wrghtn	1			
1	1	Maxwell Comm	1			
1	1	Mayflower Corp	1			
1	1	Mayne Nickless	1			
1	1	Meggitt	1			
1	1	Melrose	1			
1	1	Mercantile Hse	1			
1	1	Merchant Retail	1			
1	1	Meyer Int	1			
1	1	Michael Hghgate	1			
1	1	Midland Int	1			
1	1	Miller Group	1			
1	1	Mills & Allen	1			
1	1	Minorco	1			
1	1	Misys	1			
1	1	Mitchells & Butlr	1			
1	1	Molins	1			
1	1	Monk (Henry)	1			
1	1	Monsoon	1			
1	1	Morgan Crucible	1			
1	1	Morgan Grenfell	1			
1	1	Morrison (WM)	1			
1	1	Mothercare	1			
1	1	Mount Charlotte	1			
1	1	Mowlem (John)	1			
1	1	Mucklow (A&J)	1			
1	1	Murgitroyd	1			
1	1	Mvelaser	1			
1	1	NFC	1			
1	1	Nash Dredging	1			
1	1	National Express	1			
1	1	Nat Grid Gp	1			
1	1	Nat Power	1			
1	1	Neg Earle	1			
1	1	Nelson (Thos)	1			
1	1	Nestor Healthcare	1			
1	1	Newarthill	1			
1	1	Newman Tonks	1			
1	1	Newsprint Supp	1			
1	1	Nichols (Jas)	1			
1	1	Nicholson (WA)	1			
1	1	Nobo	1			
1	1	Norcros	1			
1	1	Northern Foods	1			
1	1	Northern Rock	1			
1	1	Northgate	1			
1	1	Northn Electric	1			
1	1	Northn Engnrng	1			
1	1	Northn Ireland	1			
1	1	Northn Leisure	1			
1	1	Northn Telecom	1			
1	1	Northumbrian	1			
1	1	Norton Opax	1			
1	1	Novar	1			
1	1	Nthn Foods	1			
1	1	Nthn Rock	1			
1	1	Nthn Telecom	1			
1	1	Nurdin & Peacock	1			
1	1	Nycomed Amersham	1			
1	1	Ocean Group	1			
1	1	Ocean Wilsons	1			
1	1	Oceonics	1			
1	1	Ocli	1			
1	1	Offshore Int	1			
1	1	Ogden	1			
1	1	Oil Search	1			
1	1	Oldham Estate	1			
1	1	Oliver Group	1			
1	1	Orbit	1			
1	1	Ordnance Surv	1			
1	1	Osborne & Little	1			
1	1	Owen Owen	1			
1	1	Oxford Biosnsrs	1			
1	1	Oxford Instrmnts	1			
1	1	PA Consulting	1			
1	1	PDFM	1			
1	1	PWS Holdings	1			
1	1	Pace Micro Tech	1			
1	1	Pacific Dunlop	1			
1	1	Pacific Int	1			
1	1	Pacific Media	1			
1	1	Pacific Resrcs	1			
1	1	Pagnall	1			
1	1	Pallas Group	1			
1	1	Palmer & Harvey	1			
1	1	Panmure Gordon	1			
1	1	Paper Plus	1			
1	1	Parkdale	1			
1	1	Parkfield	1			
1	1	Parkinson Stph	1			
1	1	Pauls & Whites	1			
1	1	Pearl Group	1			
1	1	Pearson	1			
1	1	Pegasus Int	1			
1	1	Penhall	1			
1	1	Penn Int	1			
1	1	Pennant Int	1			
1	1	Penrhyn Estate	1			
1	1	Pentland	1			
1	1	Perkins Foods	1			
1	1	Perry Group	1			
1	1	Persimmon	1			
1	1	Peter Hambro	1			
1	1	Petrofina	1			
1	1	Petrofina A	1			
1	1	Petrofina B	1			
1	1	Petrofina C	1			
1	1	Petrofina D	1			
1	1	Petrofina E	1			
1	1	Petrofina F	1			
1	1	Petrofina G	1			
1	1	Petrofina H	1			
1	1	Petrofina I	1			
1	1	Petrofina J	1			
1	1	Petrofina K	1			
1	1	Petrofina L	1			
1	1	Petrofina M	1			
1	1	Petrofina N	1			
1	1	Petrofina O	1			
1	1	Petrofina P	1			
1	1	Petrofina Q	1			
1	1	Petrofina R	1			
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1	1	Petrofina T	1			
1	1	Petrofina U	1			
1	1	Petrofina V	1			
1	1	Petrofina W	1			
1	1	Petrofina X	1			
1	1	Petrofina Y	1			
1	1	Petrofina Z	1			
1	1	Petrofina AA	1			
1	1	Petrofina AB	1			
1	1	Petrofina AC	1			
1	1	Petrofina AD	1			
1	1	Petrofina AE	1			
1	1	Petrofina AF	1			
1	1	Petrofina AG	1			
1	1	Petrofina AH	1			
1	1	Petrofina AI	1			
1	1	Petrofina AJ	1			
1	1	Petrofina AK	1			
1	1	Petrofina AL	1			
1	1	Petrofina AM	1			
1	1	Petrofina AN	1			
1	1	Petrofina AO	1			
1	1	Petrofina AP	1			
1	1	Petrofina AQ	1			
1	1	Petrofina AR	1			
1	1	Petrofina AS	1			
1	1	Petrofina AT	1			
1	1	Petrofina AU	1			
1	1	Petrofina AV	1			
1	1	Petrofina AW	1			
1	1	Petrofina AX	1			
1	1	Petrofina AY	1			
1	1	Petrofina AZ	1			
1	1	Petrofina BA	1			
1	1	Petrofina BB	1			
1	1	Petrofina BC	1			
1	1	Petrofina BD	1			
1	1	Petrofina BE	1			
1	1	Petrofina BF	1			
1	1	Petrofina BG	1			
1	1	Petrofina BH	1			
1	1	Petrofina BI	1			
1	1	Petrofina BJ	1			
1	1	Petrofina BK	1			
1	1	Petrofina BL	1			
1	1	Petrofina BM	1			
1	1	Petrofina BN	1			
1	1	Petrofina BO	1			
1	1	Petrofina BP	1			
1	1	Petrofina BQ	1			
1	1	Petrofina BR	1			
1	1	Petrofina BS	1			
1	1	Petrofina BT	1			
1	1	Petrofina BU	1			
1	1	Petrofina BV	1			
1	1	Petrofina BW	1			
1	1	Petrofina BX	1			
1	1	Petrofina BY	1			
1	1	Petrofina BZ	1			
1	1	Petrofina CA	1			
1	1	Petrofina CB	1			
1	1	Petrofina CC	1			
1	1	Petrofina CD	1			
1	1	Petrofina CE	1			
1	1	Petrofina CF	1			
1	1	Petrofina CG	1			
1	1	Petrofina CH	1			
1	1	Petrofina CI	1			
1	1	Petrofina CJ	1			
1	1	Petrofina CK	1			
1	1	Petrofina CL	1			
1	1	Petrofina CM	1			
1	1	Petrofina CN	1			
1	1	Petrofina CO	1			
1	1	Petrofina CP	1			
1	1	Petrofina CQ	1			
1	1	Petrofina CR	1			
1	1	Petrofina CS	1			
1	1	Petrofina CT	1			
1	1	Petrofina CU	1			
1	1	Petrofina CV	1			
1	1	Petrofina CW	1			
1	1	Petrofina CX	1			
1	1	Petrofina CY	1			
1	1	Petrofina CZ	1			
1	1	Petrofina DA	1			
1	1	Petrofina DB	1			
1	1	Petrofina DC	1			
1	1	Petrofina DD	1			
1	1	Petrofina DE	1			
1	1	Petrofina DF	1			
1	1	Petrofina DG	1			
1	1	Petrofina DH	1			
1	1	Petrofina DI	1			
1	1	Petrofina DJ	1			
1	1	Petrofina DK	1			
1	1	Petrofina DL	1			
1	1	Petrofina DM	1			
1	1	Petrofina DN	1			
1	1	Petrofina DO	1			
1	1	Petrofina DP	1			
1	1	Petrofina DQ	1			
1	1	Petrofina DR	1			
1	1	Petrofina DS	1			
1	1	Petrofina DT	1			
1	1	Petrofina DU	1			
1	1	Petrofina DV	1			
1	1	Petrofina DW	1			
1	1	Petrofina DX	1			
1	1	Petrofina DY	1			
1	1	Petrofina DZ	1			
1	1	Petrofina EA	1			
1	1	Petrofina EB	1			
1	1	Petrofina EC	1			
1	1	Petrofina ED	1			
1	1	Petrofina EE	1			
1	1	Petrofina EF	1			
1	1	Petrofina EG	1			
1	1	Petrofina EH	1			
1	1	Petrofina EI	1			
1	1	Petrofina EJ	1			
1	1	Petrofina EK	1			
1	1	Petrofina EL	1			
1	1	Petrofina EM	1			
1	1	Petrofina EN	1			
1	1	Petrofina EO	1			
1	1	Petrofina EP	1			
1	1	Petrofina EQ	1			
1	1	Petrofina ER	1			
1	1	Petrofina ES	1			
1	1	Petrofina ET	1			
1	1	Petrofina EU	1			
1	1	Petrofina EV	1			
1	1	Petrofina EW	1			
1	1	Petrofina EX	1			
1	1	Petrofina EY	1			
1	1	Petrofina EZ	1			
1	1	Petrofina FA	1			
1	1	Petrofina FB	1			
1	1	Petrofina FC	1			
1	1	Petrofina FD	1			
1	1	Petrofina FE	1			
1	1	Petrofina FF	1			
1	1	Petrofina FG	1			
1	1	Petrofina FH	1			
1	1	Petrofina FI	1			
1	1	Petrofina FJ	1			
1	1	Petrofina FK	1			
1	1	Petrofina FL	1			
1	1	Petrofina FM	1			
1	1	Petrofina FN	1			
1	1	Petrofina FO	1			
1	1	Petrofina FP	1			
1	1	Petrofina FQ	1			
1	1	Petrofina FR	1			
1	1	Petrofina FS	1			
1	1	Petrofina FT	1			
1	1	Petrofina FU	1			
1	1	Petrofina FV	1			
1	1	Petrofina FW	1			
1	1	Petrofina FX	1			
1	1	Petrofina FY	1			
1	1	Petrofina FZ	1			
1	1	Petrofina GA	1			
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Water firm invests in Mexico

Northumbrian Water, the UK regional water supplier, is investing $24 million in an environmental services business in Mexico.

It is acquiring a 40 per cent interest in Grupo Empresarial de Mejoramiento Ambiental (GEMA), a subsidiary of the Mexican chemical, textiles and packaging corporation, Cydsa.

GEMA was set up four years ago to provide water and waste-water services for industrial and municipal customers in Mexico. Sales in 1994 were $86 million.

Capita deal

Capita Group, the property services company, has won a five-year contract worth up to £35 million to provide support services for an Isle of Wight hospital. Capita will set up a wholly-owned subsidiary employing all existing 180 support services staff of St Mary's Hospital NHS Trust.

Johnston rise

Johnston Group, the contracting, construction and engineering company, increased pre-tax profits 57.3 per cent to £3.79 million in the half-year to June 30. It said markets continued to be extremely competitive. Earnings rose to 22.67p a share from 12.91p and the interim is increased to 4p (3.5p), due December 14. The shares rose 15p to 350p.

Hughes slides

TJ Hughes, the discount department stores company in the North West, is maintaining the interim at 0.8p a share. Pre-tax profits eased to £62,000 from £333,000 in the half-year to July 29. Earnings fell to 0.2p a share from 1.1p. million. Like-for-like sales growth was 4.5 per cent.

Axa looks to UK for its next buy

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

AXA, the French insurance group that owns Equity and Law, considers the time right to expand in Britain and is keen to acquire a mutual life insurer, according to Henri de Castries, Axa's executive vice-president.

Big UK life mutuals, such as Standard Life and Scottish Widows, would probably be too costly for Axa, France's second-biggest insurer. The most likely targets would be Scottish Amicable, Clerical Medical, Friends Providence or Scottish Providence, City analysts said.

In London to present Axa's half-year results, which showed a 24.5 per cent rise in net attributable profit to Fr1.30 billion, M de Castries said demutualising mutuals was something his company knew a lot about. In August, it won 97 per cent shareholder backing for the demutualisation of National Mutual, the Australian life insurer with a 30 per cent share of the Hong Kong market. Equitable, Axa's US subsidiary was also a demutualisation.

M de Castries said Axa now wanted to "develop its presence" in Britain. Equity & Law, was performing well in a declining market and now had a 2.7 per cent share of the UK life market, against 1.8 per cent in 1990. "It has good profitability and is financially very strong", he said.

He emphasised that Axa had a track record for spotting growth potential. The UK market now presented "opportunities" and the company was looking at acquisitions and mergers. "We are dedicated, but not in a hurry," he added. Asked whether his company would consider acquiring a UK life mutual in the next 18 months, M de Castries said it was very interested. "The life insurance business has a great future in this country," he said. "And when everybody says it is has problems, it is time to buy".

Although Axa is keen to expand its asset management business too, he ruled out any interest in acquiring the controlling stake in Gartmore, which the French Suez group wants to sell.

Axa forecast "significant rise" in profits for the whole of this year. The increase in net profit in the first half came in spite of unfavourable currency movements, lower realized capital gains and the deconsolidation of interests in Paribas and SCOR.

Improved underwriting results, strong reinsurances results and growth by its US operations were the main causes for the profits improvement. Premium income at Equity & Law, which outperformed the UK life sector, rose 1.8 per cent.

ROBIN MAYES



Home sales: Mike Handley, left, and Terry Monks, finance director, have met their pre-float profits forecast

Confident McBride beats forecast

MCBRIDE, the private label household and personal care products maker, inched past its pre-flotation forecasts with pre-tax profits of £38.6 million against an estimated £38.5 million for the year to June 30 (Patricia Tehan writes).

Turnover was £436.9 million against a forecast of £432 million.

Mike Handley, managing director, said even though margins were depressed by higher raw material prices and resistance to sales price increases, he was confident about prospects.

The shares, which started trading in July at 188p, rose 11p to close at 200p. The company reported pro-forma earnings per share of 14.7p, but is not paying a dividend on the ordinary shares following flotation until an interim next April.

Private-label household products accounted for 66 per cent of turnover and personal care for 20 per cent. The rest came from contract manufacturing.

Robert McBride increased its sales of textile washing products by 9 per cent. Dishwashing products pushed sales 10 per cent higher. Yplon, which makes similar products for the French and Belgian markets, held profits even after price deflation in France.

ICI expands operation in Pakistan

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

IMPERIAL Chemical Industries (ICI) is to go ahead with plans for its Pakistan subsidiary to build a $350 million plant at Port Qasim, to produce pure terephtalic acid (PTA), an intermediate for making polyester fibre, packaging polymers and film.

The plant, the first of its kind in Pakistan, will have an annual capacity of 400,000 tonnes. It is scheduled to start production in late 1997 and should save Pakistan about $100 million a year in foreign exchange. The British parent company will put up 61.5 per cent of the equity finance and the remainder will be raised in Pakistan. The total project investment and working capital requirements will be about $450 million.

The Pakistan project is part of ICI's global strategy to expand PTA output to meet growing demand from customers, and for the company's internal needs, at a small number of large-scale, low-cost centres. ICI has two plants in Britain with a combined capacity of 100,000 tonnes. In Taiwan, it has one 400,000-tonnes plant and is planning a second.

Sales at Meggitt take on new look

BY MARTIN BARROW

MEGGITT, the aerospace and electronics company forced into a restructuring by stakebuilding by a potential bidder, said a divestment programme was proceeding on schedule and the group has increased order intake by 15 per cent in the first half.

Meggitt, whose restructuring coincided with stakebuilding by TT Group, the acquisitive industrial holding company, yesterday reported interim pre-tax profits of £8 million for the period to the end of June. That compared with £8.6 million in the first half last year but represented an improvement over last year's second half.

In the same period the core businesses lifted operating profits 28 per cent to £10.3 million on turnover that rose 4.2 per cent to £115.1 million. Operating margins were nine per cent. Reported earnings fell to 2.2p a share from 2.5p but underlying earnings were unchanged at 2.5p a share. The interim is maintained at 1.3p. The shares rose 5½p to 80p yesterday.

Profits from the electronics division improved to £7 million from £4.64 million, while controls increased its contribution to £2.16 million from £1.27 million. But aerospace slipped to £1.8 million from £2.48 million.

Meggitt said detailed discussions were taking place with a potential buyer of its contracting and analytical businesses. Talks are also at an advanced stage with a possible buyer of Bestobell Valves, part of Meggitt's former energy division. These disposals would largely complete the restructuring of the company.

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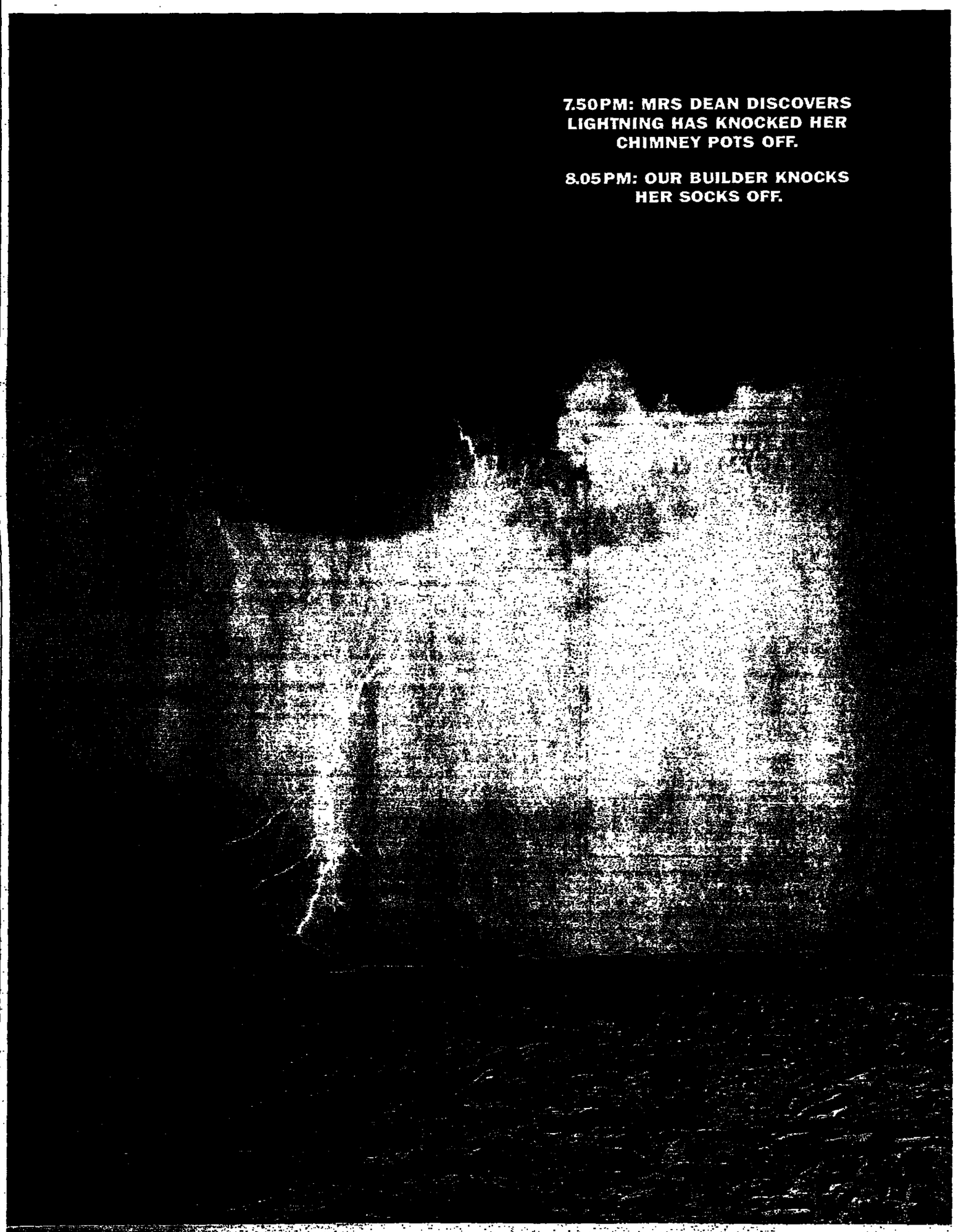
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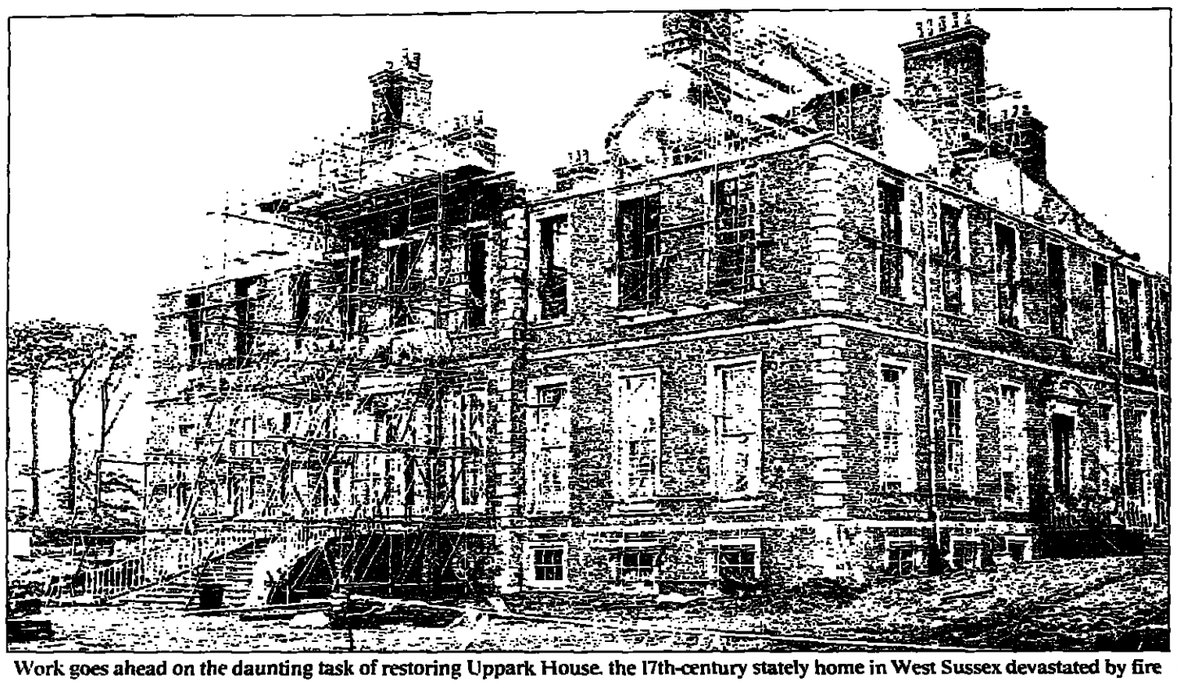
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Rodney Hobson reviews the remarkable achievements of the managers who last night were the winners in the Chartered

The man who saved Uppark

A gold medal award for bringing the past back to life



Work goes ahead on the daunting task of restoring Uppark House, the 17th-century stately home in West Sussex devastated by fire

The Building Manager of the Year is Ray Carter, the man who masterminded the restoration of Uppark House, the stately home in West Sussex that was devastated by fire.

Mr Carter had never tackled a conservation project before and his hopes of seeing the job through almost vanished when the company he worked for went into liquidation half way through the restoration. "The contract was won by John Lelliott, but another developer went bust and pulled Lellion down with it," he says. "Then Bovis stepped in and took over the business. Work had come to a standstill but I managed to pull back the time lost. Not only did I complete on time but I was under budget."

Mr Carter, 45, is married with two children. He trained as a carpenter and joiner and worked his way up to become a building manager specialising in refurbishment. Since completing the Uppark project he has been working on a site at Maidenhead, Berkshire, containing an office block and a Grade II building.

It took six years to restore Uppark, a 17th-century house at South Harting owned by the National Trust. The roof and much of the first floor was destroyed in a fire in 1989 but many of the house's treasures were saved. Sections of plasterwork, the frames of mirrors and parts of chandeliers were also recovered in the hours after the fire was brought under control. Months spent sifting through rubble, which filled 3,860 dustbins, uncovered countless gems which could either be put back together or used to recreate objects.

Painstaking demolition of damaged areas was as important as putting back together the huge jigsaw puzzle of salvaged pieces.

Sun Alliance, the insurance company, covered the £12 million cost of restoring the mansion to what has been described as its "shabby grandeur". Strict financial controls were applied throughout the job to satisfy the loss adjusters and the National Trust.

The restoration was the largest and most complex project of its kind undertaken by the National Trust. The work was unique and innovative and was subject to a number of competing and conflicting pressures. The Lelliott tender had to be competitive and be good value for money yet it involved the revival of ancient crafts and techniques. Craftsmen were taught skills that had not been widely used for 200 years and in some cases they used 300-year-old tools.

Christopher Rowell, the National Trust's southern historic buildings representative, said: "We doubted whether craftsmen would exist who could carry out some of the work, but we found them all in Britain."

The complex management task of co-ordinating the work, including arranging the supply of 30 tonnes of mature lime for the sand lime plaster in the stucco ornamental ceilings and 350 tonnes of structural green oak. Detailed chemical analysis of salvaged components such as lime plaster, paint and wallpaper had to be carried out so that they could be replicated. Temperatures had to be controlled and restorations protected from the elements while work went on.

The restoration was so successful that 70,000 visitors looked round the William and Mary mansion this summer, twice as many as came before the fire.

The adjudicators say: "The fact that the work was finished on time, within budget and to the specified quality standards was, in no small part, due to the exceptional leadership and management skills of Ray Carter. With a perfect blend of humour and firmness, but above all unshakeable resolve, he ensured that the whole project was not only a success in technical and commercial terms but also that a good working relationship was established and maintained between the employer, contractor and professional teams."

THE WINNERS

Building Manager of the Year and winner of the gold medal:
Ray Carter, Bovis Lelliott, for the repair and conservation of Uppark House.

Category I, projects more than £25 million.
Silver medal: Joe Ramsdale, John Laing Construction, the International Centre for Advanced Medical Care, Clydebank
Bronze medal: Nick Wylie, Channel 4 Television headquarters, London.
Commended: John Davis, John Laing, phase II of Wormwood Scrubs prison; Ian White, Bovis Construction, for the new En Route Centre, Southampton; Joe George, Bovis, for Michael House, London.

Category II, projects between £5 million and £25 million.
Joint silver medal: Tim Pugh, Laing Midlands, PowerGen headquarters, Coventry, Peter Deakin, Kyle Stewart, Royal Courts of Justice, London
Commended: Tony Spokes, Amec, Canterbury Crown and County Courts; David Barber, Bovis Construction for the British Airways combined operations centre, Heathrow.

Category III, for projects less than £5 million.
Silver medal: Peter Oliver, Wimpey, Boots store, Cardiff.
Bronze medal: Chris Grimshaw, Laing, Lawrence Batley Theatre, Huddersfield.
Commended: Reg Batey, Laing, C&A extension, Carlisle; Chris Smith, Costain, St Michael's House redevelopment, London; John Claydon, French Kier, North Works development, Cambridge.

● *The awards are sponsored by Calor Gas and the CIOB in association with* The Times *and* Building *magazine*

A champion of change in building

Michael Romans is demanding a revolution in attitudes towards women

Professor Michael Romans, the president of the Chartered Institute of Building, is no mere figurehead. He has made his mark as a campaigner for higher standards in the construction industry and for more women and members of ethnic minorities to be brought into the sector.

"I want to address issues in a positive, not a passive way," he says. "For anyone to treat women or members of minorities in an offensive manner is unacceptable."

Professor Romans rejects suggestions that there is a barrier to women because they do not have the physical strength for building work. "This is an excuse, not a reason. Other industries that have a strong emphasis on hard labour and inhospitable conditions have managed to change. It is important for all of us to begin to realise that we must address these issues in a sensible way."



Romans: campaign

Professor Romans, of Westminster University, accepts that equal opportunities is a topic guaranteed to raise the hackles of "a significant proportion" of institute members.

He said in his inaugural address: "The institute complies with equal opportunities legislation in respect of staff but the declared policies are not actively pursued. In the case of members the issue is ignored. To studiously ignore whole sectors of the population by concentrating on white Anglo-Saxon males is foolhardy and hostile to our declared mission." He says the construction industry, in particular, is behind the times.

Professor Romans believes, however, that the Construction Industry Training Board, of which he is a board member, has made great strides in taking the message into schools. There is no longer the major problem of teachers telling pupils that construction is not a job for girls.

He says: "Going into schools is one of my favourite part-time jobs and it is very rewarding. We have really caught the teachers' imagination. You see primary school girls laying bricks and they love every minute. Young people are our future and it does not seem strange to them that girls are just as keen as boys."

As president of the institute at the start of a programme to double its membership within ten years, Professor Romans sees no reason why 20 per cent of members should not be women. That implies an increase in the number of women members from 500 to 13,000.

He is concerned that government moves have weakened consumer protection and devalued the roles of professional bodies in asserting and maintaining standards of education, training and competence. The removal of controls in order to create a free market has had a price.

He said: "Even in a free market the public has a right to have protection from the cavalier and unscrupulous. It is widely accepted that the public is particularly vulnerable when it comes to procuring products and services from the construction industry."

He said there was clear evidence of a relationship between the design of buildings and the social behaviour of the occupants, adding: "Poor supervision, faulty workmanship and inadequate specialised training contributed significantly to the demise of high-rise dwellings. Faults in the infrastructure of buildings lead to the spread of highly contagious diseases. Building on contaminated ground endangers entire human settlements.

"The list is endless, yet such evidence is set aside in arguments about protecting the public when making the most significant purchase in life. To apply the same logic to medical services would be unthinkable."

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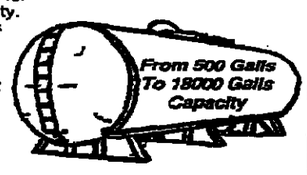
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Institute of Building annual awards, in association with *The Times*



The Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand where Peter Deakin, inset, carried out work at the height of terrorist activity in the City

Two winning verdicts

Success at the Royal Courts of Justice and for PowerGen

The judges made two silver awards in projects costing between £5 million and £25 million. The joint category II winners were Peter Deakin, of Kyle Stewart, and Tim Pugh, of Laing Midlands.

Both had to take on staff when large contractors went into receivership during the work.

Mr Deakin was responsible for demolition and reconstruction at the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand, London, to provide 14 new courtrooms, 18 judges' rooms, 14 other rooms, lifts for judges and members of the public, toilets and corridors.

During the contract three large sub-contractors went into receivership. The final cost was £12 million. Although that was £2 million more than originally envisaged, the construction time of 150 weeks was six weeks less than expected. Because the complete fit-out of furniture and law books was absorbed within the construction period, the building was occupied five months early.

The project was carried out at the height of terrorist activity in the City, which meant applying strict vetting of workers. The remaining courts were in operation throughout the construction period. Because of the heavy workload at the courts, the team in charge of the project could not gain access to carry out detailed surveys before work started. As a result, only a conceptual design could be prepared in advance. Detailed designs where all drawn up on site as work began.

The adjudicators said: "Peter Deakin's quiet but firm and conscientious manner was continually demonstrated throughout this contract, during which he gained the respect of all those with whom he had contact."

Mr Pugh was responsible for the headquarters at Coventry of PowerGen, the electricity generating company. The project provided 120,000sq ft of mostly open-plan accommodation on three storeys, with a central atrium, car parking, three lakes to attract wildlife and external landscaping.

The final cost was just over £15 million and work was carried out in 87 weeks despite the demise of two key subcontractors.

PowerGen wanted an energy-efficient building that would provide a stimulating workplace and avoid building sickness syndrome. Natural ventilation and lighting were emphasised.

The structure was primarily a concrete frame with an exposed structural steel frame supporting the atrium. External cladding was a combination of curtain walling and brickwork panels that were constructed on site and lifted into position.

Mr Pugh believes that a contract will be successful only if all members of the team work together. The adjudicators agreed: "Completion of the project on time and within budget is a fine example of what our industry can achieve when the designers and contractor work as one."

Costs rise on paper

Offices survey shows increase in efficiency

Paper price rises are still pushing up the costs of running offices, the quarterly *The Times/Procord* Office costs Index shows. The only rise in the cost of operating property has come in cleaning services, where items such as toilet rolls and paper towels are still increasing in price.

The same problem is reflected among support service costs with price rises in reprographics and stationery. Barry Varcoe, international performance manager at Procord, says: "The rate of price increases seems to be easing off. Instead of going up at 10 per cent a quarter, paper costs will probably take six to nine months to rise another 10 per cent."

The only item where costs have risen for other reasons is in catering, where the price of food has caused a £4 jump per employee.

The index for property operations has risen in the third quarter by just £2 to an annual cost of £1,257 per employee, all the rise coming in cleaning. In support services, the increase is £26 to, making a total of £2,240. Additional costs are £17 in reprographics, £5 in stationery and £4 in catering. Electricity prices seem to have reached a plateau.

Gas prices, however, are not reflecting the oversupply. Mr Varcoe says: "All storage capacity is full and the tap is being turned off in the North Sea as platforms are mothballed because there is nowhere to put the gas. It is surprising how many organisations just keep paying the bills and do not put their supply out to tender when price cuts of 20 per cent are there for the taking."

Failing to take advantage now could be costly next year when changes in the gas transportation regulations could lead to a shakeout among gas suppliers, resulting in firming of prices.

The Times/Procord Index of office costs has been recalculated to take account of the enormous changes that have taken place in the commercial world over the past three years since the index began and to make the sample of offices used to compile the index more representative.

The index now includes 250 buildings around Britain, including a proportion without facilities such as air conditioning, rather than the original list of 100 large high quality offices.

Barry Varcoe, international performance manager at Procord, says: "There has been a significant improvement in how efficiently buildings are used. What was considered leading edge two years ago is now becoming accepted practice. We have taken the same approach as in the Government's retail price index, where the components are altered to reflect changing patterns of consumption.

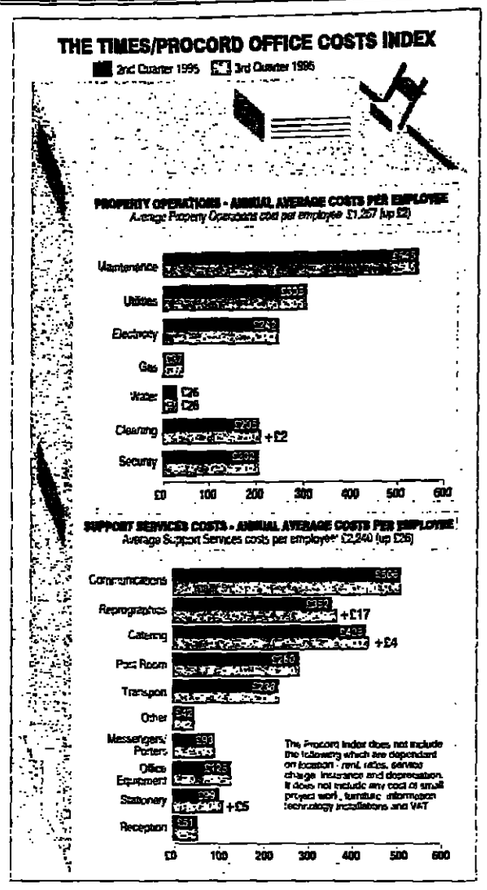
"Offices are now concentrating on teamwork and the flexibility of the working environement. The computer notebook was considered an extravagance four years ago yet people now take it for granted. It has completely changed the way people work."

Open-plan offices where staff have their own territory are on their way out. Mr Varcoe says: "You want people to work together, not in rows. Open-plan offices do not promote teamwork, they are the antithesis of it."

Modern organisations have removed layers of management and done away with status symbols such as large private offices with a plush carpet. Mr Varcoe says: "At one time you'd made it if you had an office with a separate round table, rather than a lozenge on the end of your desk, to hold a meeting round. Allocating space by grade or status is now seen as counterproductive. Space is given according to need. It is logical for a secretary to have far more space than her boss, particularly if he is the sales manager and is out most of the time anyway."

Instead of incurring the expense of bringing services such as cables and modems to the individual, staff are increasingly encouraged to go to areas set out for certain jobs.

RODNEY HOBSON



A luxury medical centre in Scotland and a hush-hush Channel 4 headquarters in London

A high road to health

A MEDICAL complex that included a four-star hotel was opened just 30 months after the driving of the first piled foundation.

The International Centre for Advanced Medical Care at Clydebank won for Joe Ramsdale, of John Laing Construction the category for the biggest contracts, those over £25 million.

The centre has 264 beds and 16 operating theatres. It incorporates the latest technology for diagnosis, treatment and education. Total cost was more than £77 million and although the construction time was 144 weeks, the hospital was in use three months earlier.

The client was an American organisation and the architects were based in Boston, Massachusetts. In the early stages of the contract Mr Ramsdale and other members of the Laing team travelled backwards and forwards across the Atlantic to develop the concept of the centre, ensure that building proceded as rapidly as possible and see that the highest specifications were followed.

Once the site was established the architects visited Scotland and handed over to a Scottish firm of architects for the development of the detailed design. Where possible, local contractors were used.

The buildings were of traditional construction but there were important variations from the normal design of a hospital. A structural steel frame was used with lightweight concrete topping. The external wall combined a brickwork and concrete façade with lightweight metal framing and fire-protected plasterboard, water-resistant plasterboard and fibreglass. Although this was expensive, this form of construction provided a quick, watertight exterior to the building.

The bronze medal in category one was awarded to Nick Wylie for the Channel 4 Television headquarters at Horseferry Road, London.

The 14,500sq-metre headquarters and national broadcasting facility, together with an 11,000sq-metre underground car park, was built by Bovis Construction over 98 weeks at a cost of £39.2 million.

There were problems with planning permission, good relations with local residents had to be maintained and there was a three-hour quiet period to be observed in the middle of the day.

The high level of dust and noise control meant the project was voted the best site in the City of Westminster considerate builders awards.

Life and times of a site manager

PETER OLIVER made such a good job of a Boots store at Newcastle upon Tyne that the chemists insisted on having him as project manager for the refurbishment of their store in Cardiff. The Cardiff project won the silver award for projects under £5 million. Mr Oliver lives at Hetton-le-Hole, six miles north of Durham. When Wimpey won the Cardiff contract he became a weekend commuter.

The task included refitting the shop floor, installing automatic doors, creating an open shop front and providing security shutters. The Boots manager wanted the work carried out quickly, and with no disturbance to retailing operations. Mr Oliver had to convince him that with cooperation the job would be completed on time and to his satisfaction. To complete on time the manager put up notices announcing when departments would reopen.

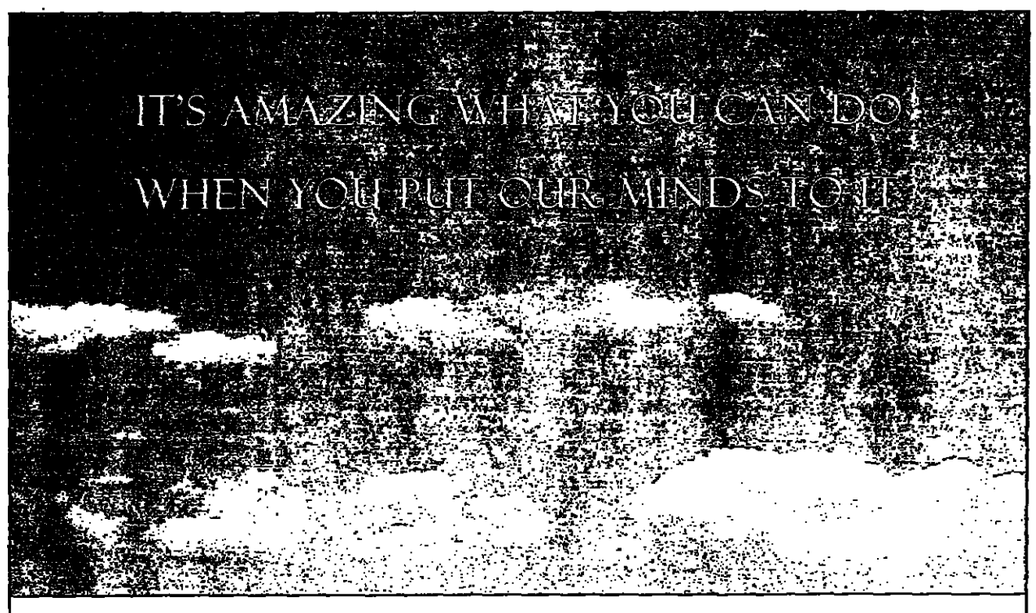
Mr Oliver says: "I could never relax. The project manager is a plate spinner. You have to keep them going on site. New personnel have to be told that it is not a normal building site. The manager treats it like his home. You cannot mix up concrete or mortar, nor saw timber anywhere you wish."

Chris Grimshaw was in charge of the conversion of an 180-year-old Methodist chapel into the Lawrence Batley Theatre in Huddersfield. The former chapel had been bought by the Kirklees Theatre Trust and the conversion was a daunting challenge. The building was found to be unstable and additional work to rectify the problem added 10 weeks and £1 million to the contract. At one point a hole was knocked in the external wall to allow a crane to be driven in.

Mr Grimshaw recognised the need to minimise inconvenience to occupiers of adjoining buildings. The project was close to the County Court so piling and other noisy operations had to be arranged to miss court sittings.

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Gtelland Euro	327.70	341.00	- 0.40	1.12
Gtelland Eqty Bal	122.70	127.20		1.82
Gtelland Gilt	73.87	76.16	+ 0.34	5.31
Gtelland Japan	164.70	174.30	+ 0.90	

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
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General Acc	603.80	642.40†	+ 2.20	2.66
General Inc	518.50	551.70†	+ 1.90	2.66
UK Growth Acc	469.10	499.30	+ 1.60	2.79
UK Growth Inc	376.20	400.60	+ 1.10	3.73
Higher Inc Acc	795.30	863.20	+ 4.60	3.97
Higher Inc Inc	429.10	456.50	+ 2.70	3.97
Cntls/Fxd Int Acc	188.00	209.10†	- 0.12	5.74
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	91.73	96.82†	- 0.03	5.74
Nth America	317.00	337.30	- 1.70	
Europe	306.50	325.90†	- 0.20	1.03
Brit Excell	81.81	87.04	+ 0.38	2.90
Brit Endowts Acc	110.90	117.90†	+ 0.50	3.68
Brit Endowts Inc	77.50	82.55†	+ 0.36	3.68
Balanced Inc	96.25	99.86	+ 0.14	2.93
Japan Acc	44.29	47.09†	+ 0.22	
Pac Basin Acc	373.70	397.60	- 0.10	0.89

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

High Income				
Gilt & Fixed Int	129.30	136.10†	- 0.10	7.35
High Inc Equity	174.90	185.10†	- 0.80	4.21
Worldwide Bond	282.10	295.10	- 0.50	4.68
Capital Growth				
American Growth	316.90	338.00	- 3.20	0.54
Asian Pacific	317.30	337.60	- 0.90	
Assets & Earnings	296.30	314.10	- 1.40	2.70
Cornfds & Energy	104.10	111.30	- 0.50	0.12
Euro Capital Inc	144.40	154.40	- 0.70	0.63
-do- Accum	154.90	165.60	- 0.70	0.63
General	262.70	279.50	+ 1.50	2.38
Japan	115.80	123.90	+ 0.50	
Mastertrust	149.20	159.60		1.62
US Emerging Cos	163.30	172.70	- 4.00	
Income & Growth	432.30	458.90	+ 2.00	2.96
Ethical	72.50	77.55	+ 0.13	2.60
International	121.00	129.70	- 0.40	0.76
Dividend & Growth	65.62	69.81	- 0.24	4.00
Global Gwth & Inc	69.49	73.19	- 0.03	2.36

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

UK Small Cos	1963.00	2039.00	+ 4.00	

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 388

Asian Inc & Growth	58.30	62.27†	- 0.36	0.59
Cash	50.00	50.00		5.62
Emerging Mkts	67.95	72.03	+ 0.10	1.05
European	127.60	133.40	- 0.70	
Exempt	1013.40	1085.30†	- 0.60	1.72
Extra Income #	49.98	53.47		8.48
Far East Emrg Eqty	178.20	175.20	- 0.60	0.50
Fixed Interest #	23.24	24.49	+ 0.02	9.63
Fund Inv Tst	161.20	172.80†	- 0.60	9.00
Japan	177.70	188.40		
Latin American	48.94	51.37	- 0.25	0.95
Pacific	78.10	82.42	- 0.34	0.33
Property Shrs	62.78	66.90	- 0.05	1.97
UK Emerging Cos	68.59	72.27	- 0.08	1.71
UK Growth	48.02	50.81†	- 0.11	2.31
Wrld Overseas Pref #	77.70	79.05	+ 0.05	2.02
North America	317.00	337.30	- 1.70	
Europe	306.50	325.90†	- 0.20	1.03
Bnd Excell	81.81	87.04	+ 0.38	2.90
Brit Endowts Acc	110.90	117.90†	+ 0.50	3.68
Brit Endowts Inc	77.50	82.55†	+ 0.36	3.68
Balanced Inc	96.25	99.86	+ 0.14	2.93
Japan Acc	44.29	47.09†	+ 0.22	
Pac Basin Acc	373.70	397.60	- 0.10	0.89

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0131 549 2232

Select Portfolio	92.78	98.711	- 0.02	

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0171 256 9868

Restil Property	97.79	104.30		5.28

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958

Annly Income	91.06	98.01†	+ 0.28	2.40
Income Builds Inc	74.81	79.59	+ 0.19	2.68

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	253.90	271.40†	+ 0.20	2.87
Capital	452.70	483.90†	- 0.70	1.71
Balanced	749.60	801.30	- 0.10	2.48
Accumulator	1405.00	1501.00	- 2.00	2.70
Income Trusts				
American Income	53.50	57.19	- 0.02	3.11
High Income	420.30	449.30†	- 0.30	3.44
Equity Income	238.60	252.90	- 0.10	3.29
High Yield	257.80	275.50	+ 0.20	3.15
Govt Securities	30.95	33.63	+ 0.02	5.92
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	172.20	184.00†	- 0.80	0.38
European Growth	31.66	34.34	- 0.07	0.07
International	173.00	184.60	- 0.30	0.18
Japan	194.50	206.40†	+ 0.10	0.01
Pacific	388.30	415.00	+ 1.20	0.01
Secs of America	489.70	521.30†	- 3.30	0.44
Wrldwide Assist Val	91.45	55.00†	- 0.03	0.22
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Values	571.20	610.60	+ 0.50	2.09
Comm & Gilt	44.85	47.94	+ 0.01	7.84
Smaller Cos	190.10	203.20†	+ 0.60	1.09
2nd Smaller Cos	179.80	192.20†	+ 0.50	1.36
Recovery	154.20	164.80	+ 0.10	1.59
Min Man & Oslty	158.00	168.90	- 1.80	0.70
Overs Earnings	364.60	411.10	+ 0.80	1.64
Technology	199.10	212.80	- 2.70	0.01
Uk Special Sits	514.70	550.20†	- 1.10	1.52

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01293 526 911

Cntrld Opt Perc	107.30	111.40		3.02
Foundtn Pnrd Pens	95.47	97.97		1.44

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 600 0033

Capital	79.68	80.51	- 0.05	1.61
International	66.45	70.69		

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

America	294.70	306.30†		
Bond	114.70	120.60		6.36
Brit Smlr Cos	110.80	117.50		2.87
Cons & Gen #	66.42	72.79†		5.42
Europe	234.00	248.80		0.63
Euro Smlr Cos	105.60	112.40		0.62
Income Gwth	364.70	386.60†		3.97
Japan	309.60	329.50		
Latin American	68.60	72.36		
Pacific	105.70	112.40		1.27
UK Smlr Cos	169.50	180.30		1.26
Japan Fd	650.30	679.60		
Mngd Fd	184.70	196.20		3.04

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 489 8873

Bls & Chases	317.80	334.50		0.84
Capital Gnth	117.70	123.90		2.64
Wrldw Oppc	196.30	206.60		0.97

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
0161 534 5544

Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inv Fd Inc	380.50	386.40	+ 1.30	2.55
European Bd Inc	92.13	95.40	+ 0.12	6.86
Exempt	77.66	80.45	+ 0.10	5.73
Financial	84.55	90.39	+ 0.09	2.74
Gilt	470.10	508.30†	+ 0.90	2.56
General	291.30	311.80†	+ 0.80	2.65
Property	245.90	263.80		6.51
Tracker	205.30	218.80	+ 0.60	2.19
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.00	100.00†		6.04
Extra Income	126.20	134.90†	+ 0.30	5.64
Gilt & Fxd Int	52.50	53.40†	+ 0.09	9.44
Income	355.60	594.50	- 1.10	3.85
Income Builder #	66.69	70.07†	+ 0.13	5.61
Ind Income	65.26	69.43	- 0.15	3.37
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	126.20	137.80		2.34
Leisure	144.00	154.00	- 0.20	1.17
Recovery	447.70	478.80	+ 2.00	2.71
Smlr Cos Inc	47.93	51.40	- 0.04	2.25
Special Sits	307.10	328.90	+ 1.50	1.29
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	146.60	155.30	- 1.00	0.33
Asst Acc	257.60	275.20	- 2.30	2.21
Asst Inc	150.70	160.50	- 1.40	2.21
Euro Gwth Inc	161.00	172.30†	- 0.40	0.77
-do- Accum	173.90	184.90	- 0.40	0.77
Japan & Gen Inc	159.20	166.40†	- 0.70	
-do- Accum	159.60	168.80	- 0.70	
Japan Spec Sits	72.83	77.15	+ 0.58	
Pacific	81.40	87.19	- 0.45	0.08
Worldwide	175.00	185.80		0.84

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 214 1004

American Growth	105.30	112.70	- 1.00	
Amer Smlr Cos	151.70	162.30	- 3.40	
Convertibles	53.72	57.54†	- 0.05	5.70
Eastern	287.40	310.10	- 0.40	0.30
Emerg Markets	89.11	95.39	- 0.56	4.10
European Growth	316.10	338.60	- 1.30	0.80
Europe	297.90	274.20	- 0.90	0.20
German Growth	91.98	98.49	- 0.03	0.50
Global Bond	95.59	98.81	+ 0.04	6.20
Global Growth	136.60	143.60	- 0.20	
Japan Growth	196.30	208.60	+ 0.20	
Japan Income	150.50	159.60	- 0.30	
Korea Trust	80.63	89.36	+ 0.05	
Pacific Basin	411.00	439.50	- 0.20	
Special Sits	94.47	99.53	+ 0.34	1.80
Select Managers	160.54	166.67	- 0.36	1.00

BLACKSTONE FRARAS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3207

Intl Gwth Fund Inc	81.05	86.22		
Special Opport Inc	91.69	97.59		

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
0141 223 6000

Balanced Growth	121.02	128.01†	- 2.05	1.48
-do- Accum	138.49	146.53	- 2.36	1.48
Smaller Cos	152.20	129.72	- 0.47	0.58
Higher Yield #	49.11	51.97†	+ 0.21	4.29
Emerging Cos Inc	37.89	39.32	- 1.35	
European Growth	151.74	160.58†	- 1.02	0.52
-do- Accum	154.73	163.74	- 1.04	0.52
Global Bond Inc #	26.95	27.93	- 0.04	7.37
Global Pfolio Inc	45.57	48.20†	- 0.03	1.46
-do- Accum	45.73	49.42	- 0.03	1.46
Int Sm Comp	120.49	127.99	- 0.92	
Pacific Gnth	123.60	130.80	- 0.65	0.30
UK General #	83.10	88.51	+ 0.24	3.19
-do- Accum #	87.18	92.25	+ 0.25	3.19
Japan	58.72	62.14	+ 0.35	
Gilt & Fxed Int #	99.28	101.76†	+ 0.14	8.61

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 480 7215

Short Dated Gilt	89.14	89.89	+ 0.04	8.25

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5060

Exempt	170.50	181.40	- 0.20	1.66
UK Growth	184.20	196.00	+ 0.50	2.14
UK Income	*138.50	147.40†	+ 0.40	4.37

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01707 333 100

Can Gth Dist	269.09	321.60†	+ 0.50	1.79
-do- Income Dist	116.80	123.80	+ 0.20	4.04
-do- Accum	360.00	381.60	+ 0.50	4.04
Gilt & Fxd Int	40.21	42.62†	- 0.01	6.29
Growth Units	200.70	235.60†	+ 0.30	2.14
Bond	171.30	180.80†	+ 0.20	6.46
Intl Growth	327.60	335.90	- 0.20	0.30
North American	211.60	225.60	- 1.50	0.32
Far East	227.10	239.10	- 1.40	0.10
Uk Smaller Cos	196.00	209.60	+ 0.30	1.54
Managed	175.30	185.80	+ 0.20	3.61
Japanese Growth	65.16	69.20	+ 0.23	
High Income	200.80	214.20†	+ 0.07	4.81

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7456

American & Gen	174.80	186.00†	- 2.00	
European Inc	82.54	87.37	- 0.20	1.52
Smaller Cos (4-1)	97.24	97.07†	- 0.03	1.64
Growth	473.70	504.80†	+ 1.40	1.95
Income & Growth #	437.80	466.80	+ 1.20	3.86
-do- Accum #	637.60	679.40	+ 1.70	3.86
Japan & Gen	66.52	70.61	+ 0.20	
Master Portfolio	1406.47	1109.99†	+13.00	2.33
-do- Accum	1129.99	1193.35	+15.00	2.33
Special Sits	111.00	118.10	+ 0.40	1.96
High Yield	214.17	216.61	- 3.00	4.32

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0706

Currency Portfolio	99.57	96.69		2.65
American Portfolio	103.97	110.48		1.00
European Portfolio	112.72	1.07 161		0.96
High Income	90.89	96.83		8.00
Japanese Portfolio	64.60	68.841	+ 0.66	
Pacific Portfolio	142.22	152.50	- 0.44	1.46
UK Inc & Growth	80.04	85.99†		3.06
Unlsty & Bond	56.75	59.41		6.47

CENT BD OF FN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

Inv Fund	709.47	720.19	+ 0.64	4.42
Fxd Int Sec	152.85	153.47	+ 0.62	9.38

CCF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

Investment Inc	699.46	710.04	+ 0.34	3.49
Investment Acc	730.82	631.28	+ 39.43	
Fixed Int Inc	123.67	124.37	- 2.11	9.25
Fixed Int Acc	205.16	206.58	+ 1.30	

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
0171 637 7697

Int Growth	118.96	130.41		
Uk Income	111.61	121.23		6.23

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5985

Beckman Inc	85.12	89.65†		2.70
Stock Bio-Tech	37.17	40.92	- 1.71	
Asian Ethical Tst	158.49	166.43		0.74
City Fin Assets	72.54	77.22†		1.78
Cit. Fin Dynamics	93.04	99.60		
City Fin Intl	81.34	85.41		1.37
City Fin Japan	145.95	153.26		
Fnds Inst Cap	282.27	305.50		2.38
Fnds Inst Inc	196.06	212.67		3.96
Inventory World Gth	133.72	141.74†		
Falmnst Cap Gth	141.32	150.88	+ 0.15	
Falmnst Int	151.48	162.15	- 1.25	
Fund Inc Cap Inc	55.47	58.25	+ 0.22	2.07

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300

Emerging Markets	58.91	59.32	- 0.56	

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0800 358 3863

American Equity	71.27	76.22	- 0.67	
Atlas Mngd Gwth	39.40	42.65		0.73
Dragon Growth	67.16	71.62	- 0.12	0.92
Equity High Inc	87.36	93.53†	+ 0.49	3.59
Extra Income	121.30	129.95	+ 0.69	3.99
Extra Income Inc	35.68	37.24†	+ 0.08	7.59
Extra Income Acc	36.92	38.23	+ 0.08	7.59
European Growth	54.68	58.36	- 0.11	1.30
Evergreen	27.97	29.81	- 0.01	
General Equity	92.17	97.78	+ 0.38	2.93
Japan Growth	49.25	52.67	+ 0.20	
Pacigrow Gwth	50.66	53.48	+ 0.25	2.83
Pref Cap Inc	32.57	34.92	+ 0.05	7.62
-do- Accum	34.39	36.59	+ 0.05	7.62
Retirement Inc #	26.92	28.64	+ 0.17	5.55
Special Sits	41.38	44.02	- 0.04	2.17
Uk & Overseas	52.89	56.27	- 0.02	1.38

COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD
01634 898 000

Capital	72.52	76.56	+ 0.41	1.98
Balanced	64.68	66.88	+ 0.28	4.21

COR CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

Investment Inc	699.46	710.04	+ 0.34	3.49
Investment Acc	730.82	631.28	+ 39.43	
Fixed Int Inc	123.67	124.37	- 2.11	9.25
Fixed Int Acc	205.16	206.58	+ 1.30	

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
0171 637 7697

Int Growth	118.96	130.41		
Uk Income	111.61	121.23		6.23

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
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European	195.10



■ VISUAL ART

Head in the clouds: the Tate surveys Turner's lifetime fascination with the sky



■ MUSIC

Richard Hickox's Vaughan Williams cycle gathers pace with three contrasting symphonies

THE TIMES ARTS



■ THEATRE

Cossacks in a whirl; absurdist Icelandic drama: the London fringe is nothing if not full of variety



■ CABARET

A cultured man at the piano: Richard Rodney Bennett displays his class in Knightsbridge

Isabel Carlisle visits the Tate's exhibition of Turner's sketches and studies of the sky and weather

When the sky is the limit

The exhibition of Turner's watercolour sketches of skies that has just opened at the Tate Gallery take us into the mind of an artist for whom light and atmospheric effects were key players in his paintings. There are very few artists for whom the sky was such an obsession or inspiration that a whole exhibition could be devoted to that single aspect of their work.

Claude in the 17th century and Tiepolo in the 18th were past masters of translucent light; Constable, in true Romantic tradition, was fascinated by skies; Turner, his contemporary, was something else altogether. We realise this at the very beginning, with a view of Fonthill Abbey of 1799: seen from across the lake, the distant building is overwhelmed by the billowing clouds. It is clear that Turner's interest in the weather and the effect of light at different times of day took over from the topography in the series of landscapes that he was commissioned to paint at that time.

Only a few of these watercolour sketches were painted out of doors; most were experiments in the studio based on ideas noted down in pencil sketches. In one of the travelling sketchbooks in the exhibition is a pencilled drawing of a rainbow annotated: "3/dark, 2/puce, light/2" — a record of tones rather than colours that in the next stage, the watercolour sketch, would be used to recapture a transient effect and not an exact reconstruction of colours.

Turner once said that he did not colour on the spot because he could make so many more pencil sketches in the same amount of time, and he filed these sketches in such a way that he could pull them out at a later date and use them as reference material for a painting.

Turner was obsessed by transience, and more so as he grew older. In Turner's later paintings there is even a sense of becoming surrounded by the landscape as the artist attempts to capture as much as possible in one go, placing the rising moon and setting sun in neighbouring quarters of the same sky.

> "Turner's interest in light took over from the topography"

In his watercolour sketches Turner often applied his pigments unmixed: pure areas of lemon yellow or scarlet lake tell us more about the immediacy of the experience than the actual colours of the sky.

In two versions of the same view of the harbour at Como, in the Italian lakes, one has an intense lemon-yellow sky (with Turner's thumb marks in the water in the foreground) and the other is suffused in pinky yellow — an experimentation in mood that Monet would repeat in his series of paintings of haystacks and of the façade of Rouen Cathedral 60 years later. It is also striking to discover how similar *Turner's Tours: Sunset*, with a yellow sun sinking in a red sky, throwing a snaking trail of light forward onto the river, is to the painting by Monet, *Impression: Sunrise*, which gave its name to the Impressionist movement.

It is not impossible that Monet did see Turner's painting on a visit to London. To say that Turner's *Pink sky over grey water* should resemble a Rothko is to look at it through the lens of the late 20th century. But it is not as fanciful a connection as it seems. Both artists were mood purveyors for whom colour held the key.

Look at Turner's horizontally-banded sketch that moves from pale pink at the top to a band of orange yellow hovering over a yellowish grey sea, and then go into the Tate and look at Rothko's huge canvases for the Seagram building in New York, painted in 1958-59, which have a room of their own in the current display, and make the comparison yourself.

Do so and enjoy it as a luxury, because if the Tate's collection of modern and European art is transferred to Bankside, this is not a comparison that will be so readily available.

● *Sketching the Sky: Watercolours from the Turner Bequest is in the Turner exhibition rooms of the Clore Gallery at the Tate Gallery, London until February 4. Admission free.* The Seagram Murals *by Rothko are in Room 25 until Tuesday and then move to Room 30, reopening on October 21, to make way for the Turner Prize*



The light fantastic: Turner's *Boats at Sea/Trees in a Strong Breeze*, circa 1820-25, at the Tate — "Turner was obsessed by transience, and more so as he grew older"

CLASSICAL CONCERTS

Passages that touch the heart

Bournemouth SO/Hickox
Barbican

AFTER an electrifying start to their Vaughan Williams cycle, with the *Sea Symphony* and *Sinfonia Antartica* a fortnight ago, Richard Hickox and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra have had a lot to live up to. In the third concert of the series, featuring the Fourth, Fifth and Eighth Symphonies, they periodically scaled the same peaks of inspiration.

Certainly it proved as controversial a piece of programming as the opening concert. For the Fourth and Eighth together make a substantial first half: well over an hour. Yet it was astute planning, for the genial, relaxed Eighth neatly complements the abrasive, intense Fourth, and the two together — especially with the serene Fifth — offer a rounded musical portrait of the composer.

The asperities of the Fourth, inseparable from the composer's prophetic fears for the state of Europe in the 1930s, mark the furthest extreme of violence in an oeuvre irrevocably defined by the very opposite. Those grinding semitonal clashes that open the symphony often sound, to these ears at least, unconvincing — as though a persona is being adopted that does not quite fit. Hickox's rendering, dynamic and forward-thrusting rather than dwelling on the discords, made good sense of the passage. And its varied return, at the end of the whole work, provided a surge of energy that was not simply naked violence.

In that context, the cheers of an appreciative audience did not seem out of place. And it was easier to forgive the sometimes crude foghorn blasts on the tuba, not to mention the occasionally non-aligned brass choruses. To be fair, the performances of the Eighth and the Fifth — and often of the Fourth, too — were generally on a high level, even if the stunning form of the opening concert was not consistently recaptured.

One could criticise the over-prominent trumpet motif of the Eighth's first movement, or the similarly stark opening to the cor anglais solo of the Fifth's romanza, and not everybody breathed as one organism at the radiant side-shift into E major in the Fifth's first movement. On the other hand, there were some impressive things, notably the succulent chord progression for muted and divided strings, that opens the romanza: perfectly aligned and poetically expressive at the same time.

But best of all were the expansively lyrical passages — especially those spiritually glowing moments of the Fifth — where Hickox and his players come close to the music's heart, revealing its "greatness of soul", as it was aptly described when the work was new, half a century ago.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Virtuoso keeps them guessing

NS/Schiff
Middlesbrough Town Hall

MIDDLESBROUGH Town Hall has installed a coffee counter for the interval. It might seem a small thing but, as an indication of a new willingness to cater for a notoriously eccentric minority, it could be a turning point in the development of the cultural life of the region. Certainly, any change of that kind must be welcome to regular visitors such as the Northern Sinfonia.

With a new season to open and a new publication to launch — a rudimentarily designed but promising combination of programme notes, news items and features — it is obviously not encouraging to open your doors on a town centre all but deserted at 7pm and with only the most devoted of supporters likely to walk up the stone steps, buy a ticket and receive a free copy of *Classic North*.

What is on offer inside, on the other hand, is chamber-orchestral playing of international quality, as was clear from the moment Heinrich Schiff raised his baton on Rossini's *Barber of Seville* Overture.

Style was not cramped by the depressing circumstances of a much undersold concert and the occasional extraneous detail was noticeable only because of the exceptional clarity of the Sinfonia sound.

There were problems with the integration of wind and strings, particularly in Ives's *Unanswered Question* — it is always difficult to make the first entry of the trumpet anything other than an intrusion on the harmonies sustained by the strings — but the performance of Mozart's Symphony No 39 in E flat was smoothly lyrical if not exceptionally illuminating.

The soloist of the evening was Ivry Gitlis, a remarkable survivor of a disappearing generation of violinists brought up on the teaching of Enescu, Thibaud and Flesch.

Peculiarly unconcerned about holding up events by adjusting the tension of his bow or about all-too audibly testing the position of his left hand before making an entry, he gave an extraordinary account of Paganini's First Violin Concerto.

The sound is not as seductive as it was, the intonation is frankly edgy at times, and not every passage of double-stopped harmonics or whatever actually came off.

But in his totally fearless way he performed prodigies of technical excess and virtuoso brilliance, inspiring awe in the audience and keeping Schiff and the Sinfonia in continual suspense as to what he might do next.

GERALD LARNER

The art of conversation is alive and swinging

Richard Rodney Bennett
Pizza on the Park

A PERFORMANCE by Richard Rodney Bennett is all style and poise. No multi-octave virtuoso, he transforms songs into conversational set pieces, his urbane voice savouring, Coward-like, every twist of the lyric, every tart social observation. Like Michael Feinstein, who has just finished a superb West End run, he unearths riches from a bottomless fund of Broadway tales and legends.

These are, as ever, busy times for Bennett. Newly appointed to the International Chair of Composition at the Royal Academy of Music, he will be giving lectures and masterclasses at his alma mater this week while his new Partita for Orchestra will be unveiled by the Philharmonia at the Festival Hall later in the month. On the slightly jazzier side of the street, this year also saw the CD release of his *Concerto for Stan Getz*, performed by the saxophonist John Harle.

At the very end of his opening set at Pizza on the Park, Bennett delved into his ample catalogue of film scores, as he scampered through a waltz from *Murder on the Orient Express*.

For a good part of the show he also had to contend with the noise and chatter of an arrogant party of yahoos who could have been mistaken for extras from another entry on his CV, *Four Weddings and a Funeral*.

Finally losing patience, he shamed them into silence with a glorious satire stuffed full of Sloane Square chit-chat ("Annabel miscarried/Just as well she didn't marry") and squarely aimed at this particular sub-set of the chattering classes.

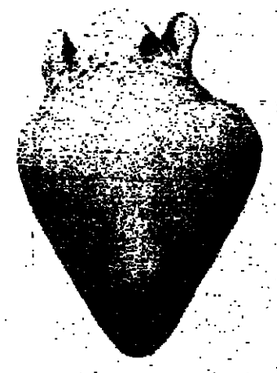
PARIS provided another of his targets earlier, when he sank a a stiletto into the romanticised image of the city, home of lovers, *café au lait* and Existentialists, in a bravura piece by the under-rated Dave Frishberg.

Bennett cannot bring himself to be rude about his adopted home of New York. An affectionate *Autumn in New York* came gift-wrapped in a rarely heard verse, and his own composition *Let's Go and Live in the Country* evoked an almost lost world of witty cocktail parties.

CLIVE DAVIS

VISIONS OF AFRICA

A daily series of items featured in the Royal Academy's current exhibition, Africa — The Art of a Continent



Pendant (*gikuokuo*), Central Pende, Zaire, ivory

The Central Pende tribe carve pendants in the form of miniature masks, which the owners wear around their necks. During the course of a day the pendants accumulate sweat and, in the past, the red camwood powder that was used as a skin conditioner. They would then be scrubbed, preserving their shine. This one has been well looked after.

Spirits on spirits

FRINGE THEATRE

THE British Festival of Visual Theatre at the BAC begins with The Night, a vision of Valpurgisnacht adapted from the Russian author Venedickt (*Moscow Stations*) Erofeyev by Poland's Theatre Kana. I was virtually in the dark as to what was being said here. Perhaps that was appropriate. I was in the company of drunken madmen, if not in an asylum, then possibly rising from the grave and/or at a train station.

Anyway, in shabby black, they chant through an anti-Eucharistic toast to the demon drink, gulping down meths and vodka like there's no tomorrow — and maybe there isn't, the Day of Judgment being due. They look like Breughel peasants turned Beckett tramps ensnared by Mephistopheles. They cavort. These are spirited spirits on strong spirits. They talk nonsense. Occasionally a man in a fur hat, wielding a yellow-flagged skewer, bursts in and raves against the Jews. At other times we are visited by a caped devil who thrusts his two crutches into quivers like skeletal wings.

Theatre Kana are artists of fine timing and physical vigour. One figure, his back to us, suddenly arcs back, flashing an inverted gargoyle face. Erofeyev's characters, tormenting the author in a soused nightmare I gather, cut strange capers, half-silly, half-scary, slamming their feet between flailing goose steps. The lunatic babble is a bemusing bore. The cast are also restricted by performing in English, their accents meaty and musical but confounding. Still, I'd go a long way to see that Cossack whirling again, celebrating life with an accordion, a bike bell and a spin of limbs.

If *The Night* was impenetrable, **The Pigeon Banquet** at Watermans Arts Centre has me doubly stumped. The Icelandic writer Halldor Laxness links ancient sagas with the modern novel. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1955. However, this 1960s absurdist Taoist play — about a little old man and wife who dismiss money despite making a fairy-tale fortune pressing trousers — is in a mess.

The political significance of a snooping detective and an angry trade union, arriving as a brass band, falls into confusion as the snooper dresses up in aristocratic drag to deposit a war orphan on the old couple. Anda, growing up with aspirations, marries a dirty rat who feigns to be a humanitarian and manufacturer of fodder for mice who must rule the earth.

All this might be more illuminating and amusing if the extras stopped pulling faces, and the old folks had their lines under their belts. The director, Dawn Lintern, has mistaken our author's surname for an aesthetic approach. The production is flat. Still, Nina Andresen's Anda is natural, sweet and sturdy, and James Menzies-Kitchin acts his socks off as the rat Ronald Reeker, fey yet predatory, doing the boogie-woogie like a Machiavellian weasel.

KATE BASSETT

MARILYN KINGWILL



Theatre Kana's Janusz Janiszewski and Slawoj Golanski show fine timing and physical vigour in *The Night*

Tonight at 7.30pm
'He brought real fire to the performance, his enthusiasm generating a tremendous response from the orchestra' *
Luigi Alberto Bianchi conducts
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CHOICE 1

Michael Tilson Thomas returns to conduct Beethoven and Schoenberg

VENUE: Sun, Tues and Wed at the Barbican



CHOICE 2

Rufus Sewell stars in a tense drama by Ron Hutchinson, *Rat in the Skull*

VENUE: Now in preview at the Duke of York's

THE TIMES POP ARTS



CHOICE 3

The Britten Quartet makes its farewell playing quartets by Britten himself

VENUE: This weekend at Orford Church, Suffolk



POP 1

Never mind the album sales, who has the mineral rights? Ruby explain all to Caitlin Moran

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

MTT RETURNS Michael Tilson Thomas (or MTT as he is to his new San Francisco friends) returns to conduct the London Symphony Orchestra Sunday's concert features Ives's *The Unanswered Question*, Schoenberg's *A Survivor from Warsaw* and Beethoven's Symphony No 9, *Choral*. **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Sun, Oct 10 and 11, 7.30pm

CLASSICS FOR PLEASURE Another season of the London Philharmonic's popular series opens tonight, with Owain Arwel Hughes at the helm. Chee-Yun is the violinist for a programme of Berlioz, Faure, Lalo and Dvořák. **Festival Hall**, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Tonight 7.30pm

RAT IN THE SKULL The Royal Court Classics Season opens with Ron Hutchinson's 1984 drama. Tony Doyle's RUC detective grills Rufus Sewell, caught with explosives. Stephen Daldry directs. **Duke of York's**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5121) Previews tonight-Tue 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3pm. Opens Oct 11, 7pm

COMMUNICATING DOORS Alan Ayckbourn's ingenious time-travel play. Julia McKenzie flees from a vengeful enemy via the doors of a hotel that take her forward and back a decade. **Gielgud**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5530). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

DEAD FUNNY Belinda Lang, Kevin McNally and Sam Kelly in Terry Johnson's sharply funny play about comics and some of their fans. **Savoy**, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888) Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 5pm

FUNNY MONEY Ray Cooney as a man who picks up the wrong briefcase and finds himself richer by £735,000 in used £50 notes. The ensuing havoc involves Sylvia Syms, Henry McGee and Charles Drake. **Playhouse**, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm

GANGSTER NO 1 Bloodily persuasive view of London's underworld, with Peter Bowles' frighteningly convincing as a fetish killer. **Almeida**, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Tonight, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm and 8pm. Final week

THE HOTHOUSE Tony Haygarth, Celia Imrie, John Shrapnel and Pinter himself in the transfer from Chichester of his long-buried play in which the staff of a mental hospital scheme for dominance. **Comedy**, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

PEER GYNT Tremendous performance by Alex Jennings in an illuminating production by John Barton. Haydn Gwynne plays mother and sweetheart. **Young Vic**, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Tonight-Oct 14, 7.15pm, mats Sat, 2pm

THE STEWARD OF CHRISTENDOM Sebastian Barry's fine and moving memory-play. Donald McCann outstanding as the ex-chief of Dublin's police in the last years of British rule. Best play of 1995? **Royal Court**, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm

THREE TALL WOMEN Maggie Smith returns, this time with Sara Kestelman and Samantha Bond, in Edward Albee's fascinating play about the adoptive mother who withered his childhood. Anthony Page directs. **Wyndhams**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Tue-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

WHAT THE BUTLER SAW Joe Orton's farcical Freudian nightmare engagingly revived with John Alderton, Nicola Pagett and Richard Wilson. **National** (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, 7.30pm. Sat, 2.15 and 7.30pm

Ticket information supplied by *Society of London Theatre*

ELSEWHERE

GLASGOW Opera fans are in for a real treat tonight as the Spanish diva **Montserrat Caballé** is in recital with her accompanist Manuel Burgueras. Tomorrow, Alexander Lazarev and the **Royal Scottish National Orchestra** are joined by cellist Steven Isserlis for their season opener. Elgar's Cello Concerto in E minor and Shostakovich's Symphony No 8. **Royal Concert Hall**, Buchanan Street. Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. (0141-227 5511)

ORFORD Benjamin Britten's complete cycle of quartets will be given their last UK performance by his namesake ensemble, the Britten Quartet, in one of the composer's favourite venues. The highly acclaimed quartet is disbanding at the end of the year so this weekend's concerts should be quite special. **St Bartholomew's Church** (01394 450266). Tonight, 9.30pm; Sat, 7.30pm and Sun, 3pm

WATFORD Kaza Pelka takes the title role of **Anna Karenina**, with Alexander Hardy and Jonathan Oliver as the men in her love-torn life. Giles Croft directs Helen Edmundson's adaptation. **Palace**, Clarendon Road (01923 235671). Previews tonight-Mon, 8pm. Opens Oct 10, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Thurs 7.45pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, mats Oct 11, 2.30pm and Oct 21 and 28, 3pm. Until Oct 28

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican Dora Carrington (0171-638 4141). **National Gallery** Myths and Fables: Three Paintings by Piero di Cosimo (0171-747 2885). **National Portrait Gallery** John Korbal Photographic Portrait Award 95 (0171-306 0055). **Royal Academy** Alnica, Art of a Continent (0171-439 7438). **Serpentine** Big City: Artists from Alnica (0171-723 9072)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ *House full, returns only*
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

□ **COMMUNICATING DOORS** Alan Ayckbourn's ingenious time-travel play. Julia McKenzie flees from a vengeful enemy via the doors of a hotel that take her forward and back a decade. **Gielgud**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5530). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

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NEW RELEASES

◆ **ASSASSINS** (15) Cat and mouse games between two contract killers. Reasonable action thriller, with Sylvester Stallone, Antonio Banderas, Julianne Moore. Richard Donner directs. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

LAND AND FREEDOM (15). Ken Loach's powerful Spanish Civil War drama, with Ian Hart and Rosana Pastor. **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Renoir** (0171-637 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520)

MY FAMILY (14) Handsome but shallow [illegible] of a Mexican family in Los Angeles, with Jimmy Smits and Esai Morales. Director, Gregory Nava. **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** ◪ (0171-437 1234) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE NET** (12) New technology, but enjoyable old thrills, with Sandra Bullock as a computer expert in peril. Director, Irwin Winkler. **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **APOLLO 13** (PG) The near-fatal moon mission of 1970. Splendid images, but conventional drama. With Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon and Ed Harris. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** ◪ (0990 888900) **MGMs: Baker St** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Rd** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **BRAVEHEART** (15) Overly blood-thirsty epic, with Mel Gibson as the 13th century Scottish rebel William Wallace. **Empire** (0171-437 1234) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

◆ **FORGET PARIS** (12) Bumpy romantic comedy with Billy Crystal and Debra Winger. **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

FUNNY BONES (15) Comedy and tears with a showbusiness family. Over-ambitious film from Peter Chelsom, with an eye-grabbing turn from Lee Evans. With Oliver Platt, Jerry Lewis and Leslie Caron. **Barbican** ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE USUAL SUSPECTS** (18) Complex, riveting thriller about the wages of crime, a strong cast includes Stephen Baldwin and Gabriel Byrne. **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **MGMs: Fulham Road** ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

End (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

POCAHONTAS (U) Strangely dull slice of American history: a backward step for Disney cartoons after *Aladdin* and *The Lion King*. With the voices of Mel Gibson and Irene Bedard. **Odeon Leicester Sq** (01426 915683)

CURRENT

◆ **APOLLO 13** (PG) The near-fatal moon mission of 1970. Splendid images, but conventional drama. With Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon and Ed Harris. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** ◪ (0990 888900) **MGMs: Baker St** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Rd** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

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There are hidden depths to Ruby's Lesley Rankine — as **Caitlin Moran** discovers

Sparks that glow in the murk

Old, tattered and singed books, smelling of magic and potion: words that send the mind down rarely travelled routes that invoke mud and bonfire and fear and superstition. Witches, plagues. Bloody abortions. Creeping skin diseases. The accidental cures come from strange names: Silvery Everlasting; Marsh Blazing Star; Lad's Love; Penny Royal (the tea from which induces miscarriage); Rutabaga, Sassafras; Soloman's Sea; Turtlebloom; Euphorbia. It's an old book on naturally occurring minerals, chemicals and herbal extracts — I've been sent to the back of my library by something Lesley Rankine of Ruby said, something on the reasoning behind calling her debut album *Salt Peter*.

"It's a bizarre chemical," she says, "one of the primary ingredients in gunpowder. But *it's also a medicine. I just* loved the way it swung between extremes."

It occurs under water, forcing its way through rock and stone, and crusting itself, coral-like, on the moon-like surfaces of submerged mountains and scars. And it glows. Glows like barnacle-stars. Once collected, it can be used to preserve meat, heal the sick or blow up buildings. Of all the underwater blooming minerals that shine in the murk, saltpetre rules. This is the king mineral. And no wonder Rankine feels a kinship with it.

"Your mind becomes bizarre in the dark," she explains, undoing the belt of her trousers, and stretching out on the bench. "Small, dark places — anything you do somewhere like that is going to be touched *by the darkness, by the small*ness of the place. The studio we were recording in was a tiny, dark basement. You start to become disconnected from what you're doing. You forget what's happening in the world. It's just you, in this hole, singing out."

And, surely enough, the subterranean claustrophobia in which *Salt Peter* was recorded is captured on the album, with Rankine's phosphorescent-bright voice throwing the shadows and gloom into even brighter relief. The New Orleans voodoo swing of *Bud*; the skewered delirium of the single *Paraffin*; the hard electro pounding of *Salt Water Fish*; the Kristin Hersh-evoking *Heidi*, which is gently disturbed and all the more terrifying for its sweetness, are all illuminated with a voice which growls, soars, whispers and carols. Her only vocal equals are Björk and Jeff Buckley.



Rankine: "In a tiny dark studio you become disconnected from what you're doing"

"I *think my voice sucks*," she says, wide-eyed. "On a good day I can yell out, but I've no technique. It's just raw.

"I know what I want to do with the next album," she says, dripping cigarette ash on the floor. "There's a Bulgarian folk choir of 40 of the ugliest women you've ever seen in your life — they all look like bedraggled extras from *EastEnders* — but when they sing! It goes right through your body. You can feel it cleaning your spine. They all bend the notes at the same time; twist the notes; harmonise in this scary way that isn't possible with the Western scale of notes. I want to do something like that for the next album. Just me and a ratty organ, and maybe a cello for the low notes."

Rankine's eyes shine. She is obviously tipsy on the freedom her solo career enables her. Before Ruby, Rankine was in the critically fered Silverfish, famed for their dirty hard rock and Rankine's honorary boyish attitude to sex, drugs and drinking. The band broke up with ill-feeling on both sides — various unpleasant business aspects which Rankine doesn't want to talk about, but which obviously hurt her badly, the unpleasantness coming from people she had spent years with.

When Silverfish broke up, she ran away to Seattle, and started putting Ruby together with Mark Walk, formerly of Pigface and Ministry.

"I want to live in New Orleans now," she says, lighting another cigarette and pushing her bright-blue hair from her eyes. "I'd love to record there, and get the atmosphere of the place into songs. You can live so cheaply there."

> "I loved the way saltpetre swung between extremes"

But isn't New Orleans a scary voodoo tar-pit; a town on a spiritual fault-line? Wouldn't you be putting your very soul into jeopardy living there?

"*Nah*," Rankine hoots with laughter. "The only disturbing things there are real, human things. Like, they don't bury *their dead in New Orleans*. Floods make the earth unstable, so they put their dead into huge vaults and marble monuments. Well, the rich do. The poor, mainly black families can't afford to do that. They just bury them normally. And after a couple of years, the dead rise to the surface, they just float through the earth. We were walking through a graveyard, and I could see hip bones, fingers poking through the soil. Now that's scary. Human things are always the scariest."

● Salt Peter *is released on Creation records today.*

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

ROYAL WATERCOLOURS SOCIETY AUTUMN EXHIBITION to 22 Oct. Over 200 works on display. Open Tues 10-8, Weds-Fri 10-5, Sun 1-5. £3.50 / £2 concs. *Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton St, London SE1. Tel: 0171 928 7521.*

Royal Academy Of Arts, Piccadilly, W1 10-6 Daily. Recorded info 0171-439 4996/7 CC 0171-494 5676. AFRICA.THE ART OF A CONTINENT *FROM MANET TO GAUGUIN* - FINAL DAYS

Royal Academy Of Arts, Piccadilly, W1, 10-6 Daily. Recorded info 0171-439 4996/7 CC 0171-494 5676. *FROM MANET TO GAUGUIN* - CLOSING SOON

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Tom't 6.30 **RUSALKA** Tomor 7.00 **COSI FAN TUTTE**

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info. Tickets available on the day. The Royal Opera Tomor, Tue 7.00 **LE NOZZE DI FIGARO** Mon, Thur 7.30 **TOSCA**

THEATRES

ADELPHI **"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE"** Wall St Journal **SUNSET BOULEVARD** Winner of 7 Tony Awards including **BEST MUSICAL** Starring **PETULA CLARK** 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee) *GRP BOOKING 413 3302* (bkg fee) No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers Recorded information 0171 379 6565 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

ALBERY BO 0171 369 1730 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grp 0171 413 3311 **"FIVE STAR SHOW ...IRRESISTIBLE"** D.Exp **FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE** FIFTH STOMPING YEAR Mon-Thu 8pm Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45 Fri & Sat 6pm perf:top 4 prices 2 for 1

ALDWYCH cc 0171 416 6003 0171 420 0000 (no fee) Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 **NIAMH CUSACK MARGARET TYZACK PAUL BHATTACHARJEE** **INDIAN INK** **"TOM STOPPARD'S TRIUMPH - A BEAUTIFUL AND FUNNY FIREBALL OF A PLAY TO ILLUMINATE THE WEST END"** Today. Directed by PETER WOOD

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321 **Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of STARLIGHT EXPRESS** **"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT"** Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

APOLLO 0171 494 5068/344 4444/420 0000 **HAYLEY MILLS** **"Magnificent"** F.T. **JENNY SEAGROVE** **"Impeccable"** Times **DEAD GUILTY** **'Richard Harris' new play is THE PERFECT THRILLER'** S.Times Mon-Fri 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 & 8.15

CALL 0171-481 1920 To place your entertainment advert in THE TIMES

CAMBRIDGE BO & cc 0171 494 5054 cc (no bkg fee) 312 1992/ 344 4444 Grps 413 3321/ 312 1970/ 494 5454 **FAME** THE MUSICAL **"FAME IS A FEEL-GOOD TRIUMPH"** Mail On Sunday **"BREATHTAKING"** Independent Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL EXTENDED TO 14 OCTOBER Lauren Bacall, Joss Ackland **THE VISIT** *by Friedrich Durrenmatt* Box Office 01243 781312

COMEDY 0171 369 1731 inc cc no bkg fee cc 0171 344 4444 no bkg fee **HAROLD PINTER** "brilliant comedy performance" S.Tel **THE HOTHOUSE** by Harold Pinter Directed by David Jones "lethally funny" Guardian Eves 7.45 Mats Thur 3.00 & Sat 4.00 **LIMITED SEASON TO 16 DEC**

CRITERION 369 1747 cc (no bkg fee) 0171 344 4444 DANIEL MASSEY MICHAEL PENNINGTON "two compelling leading performances...a tremendous play, tremendously performed" D Tel **TAKING SIDES** **"a masterpiece"** Mail On Sunday by Ronald Harwood **"scrupulously well-directed by Harold Pinter"** Observer Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 **AIR-CONDITIONED THEATRE**

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200 **GREASE** Starring **SHANE RICHIE** and **SAMANTHA JANUS** **"Fast, furious & fun, fun, fun."** Daily Mirror Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm **TICKETS AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE ON OCT 16TH & 17TH THE ROLE OF DANNY ZUKO WILL BE PLAYED BY RICHARD CALKIN**

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL SS cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000 **MISS SAIGON** **"THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME"** **NOW IN ITS 7TH SENSATIONAL YEAR!** Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm **Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS** *0171 494 5060 (BKG FEE)*

DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30 **"A SAUCY COMEDY!"** *E. Std* **NOW IN ITS 5th YEAR** **DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER** **"Gloriously Outrageous"** *T.Out*

DUKE OF YORK'S 0171 836 5122/9837 cc 240 0000/344 4444 (24 hrs, no fee) **ROYAL COURT CLASSICS SEASON NOW MORE THAN EVER** John Castle Tony Doyle Pearce Quigley Rufus Sewell Ron Hutinson's **RAT IN THE SKULL** A new production Directed by Stephen Daldry **"Beautiful & passionate"** Obs **FOR 52 PERFS ONLY:** *Eves 7.30pm, Mats Thur & Sat 3pm*

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/0171 312 8033 DAVID BURKE ANDREW HAVILL *Susan Hill's* **THE WOMAN IN BLACK** Adapted by Stephen Mallatrat **"A real thrill of horror"** S.Times **NOW IN ITS 7TH YEAR** Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 0171 312 1990 (no bkg fee) **WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS** The Royal National Theatre production JB Priestley's **AN INSPECTOR CALLS** *"Theatrical perfection"* D Tel *"Nobody should miss it"* Time Out *"I urge you to see it"* DMail *"Stunning, engrossing, blazingly original"* NY Times **FINAL LONDON SEASON** From 20 October

GIELGUD Shaftesbury Ave inc cc 0171 494 5530 (no bkg fee) cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) *Groups 0171 494 5454* **JULIA McKENZIE** **COMMUNICATING DOORS** by **ALAN AYCKBOURN** "A MELODRAMATIC COMEDY THRILLER WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND GENUINELY SCARY" D.Tel *"...with the audience in turn ROARING WITH LAUGHTER AND LEAPING FORWARD IN FRIGHT"* Independent Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

HAYMARKET 0171 930 8800 cc 0171 344 4444/420 000 (bkg fee) THE PETER HALL COMPANY **ALAN BATES GEMMA JONES** **THE MASTER BUILDER** Directed by Peter Hall From 11 Oct for 12 weeks only

HAYMARKET 0171 930 8800 **"NEW PLAY OF THE YEAR"** D.Mail **BURNING BLUE** by D.M.W. Greer Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Wed & Sat 3pm **ENDS TOMORROW**

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/930 6123 **ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL** **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** Directed by HAROLD PRINCE **NOW BKG TO 28 SEPT 96** Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 Apply to Box Office daily for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (ET 1st serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 312 8000 **JIM DALE** RETURNS TO THE WEST END **"A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT"** Daily Mail **OLIVER!** **"LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE"** S.Times Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 **SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS**

LYRIC Shaftesbury Ave BO/cc 0171 494 5045 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) **LEO McKERN NICHOLA McAULIFFE GRAHAM TURNER** **HOBSON'S CHOICE** by Harold Brighouse Directed by Frank Hauser **"a landmark production"** D.Mail Eves 7.30 Mat Sat 3.00 From Wed **LIMITED SEASON**

MERMAID 236 2211 cc 344 4444 JANET McTEER BARBARA FLYNN **VIVATI VIVAT REGINA!** by ROBERT BOLT 19 Oct - 25 Nov

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252 Grps 0171 620 0741;24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000 **OLIVIER** Tom't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 **VOLPONE** Ben Jonson **LYTTELTON** Tom't 7.30, Tomor 2.15 & 7.30 (LAST PERF) **WHAT THE BUTLER SAW** Joe Orton **COTTESLOE** Tom't 7.30, Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 **THE MACHINE WRECKERS** Ernst Toller in a version by Ashley Dukes

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL **CATS** Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 **LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.**

OLD VIC 0171 928 7616/420 0000 **SEASON NOW EXTENDED TILL 18TH NOVEMBER** **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST** by OSCAR WILDE **"A wonderful night out"** D.Tel **"Elegant & effervescent"** S.Times **"Barbara Leigh-Hunt is the star-turn in a crack company"** Lo.S. **"An evening of sheer happiness"** Eve Std **Directed by TERRY HANDS** Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

OLD VIC 0171 928 6655/312 6034 The Royal National Theatre's **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS** Ltd Season From 24 Nov. Book Now

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■ POP 2

Perhaps k.d. lang has nothing left to prove, but why choose not to prove it in a new album?



■ POP 3

Is it an album? Or is it just a lifestyle accessory? Hard to say with Simply Red's *Life*

THE TIMES POP ARTS



■ POP 4

Menswear make a lukewarm stab at the big time with the patently derivative *Nuisance*



■ POP 5

Fourteen years on from his Haircut 100 days, Nick Heyward proves his durability

Subdued by too much success

NEW ALBUMS: David Sinclair on the latest from k.d. lang and the rest of Simply Red

k. d. lang
All You Can Eat
(Warner Bros 9362-46034)

PRESUMABLY, when k.d. lang describes *All You Can Eat* as "diet *Ingénue*", the Canadian chanteuse does not mean to imply that it is a content-free imitation of her breakthrough album of 1992. But something *is* lacking in this strangely subdued collection of songs with such noncommital titles as *This, Get Some* and *You're OK*. A simple, laid-back approach is one thing, but in the end just how inspiring can a song called *You're OK* really be?

As a torch singer lang has nothing left to prove, and for some reason she has decided not to prove it with a vengeance. As the smoochy *If I Were You* gives way to the sleepy *Maybe* ("Maybe I love you, *maybe I'm dreaming*"), which in turn drifts into the overwhelmingly less-than-startling *You're OK*, you long to put a rocket under her.

Her voice is sensational, but the heartbeat of the album is close to a flat line. Even the mildly provocative *Sexuality* — "How bad could it be if you should fall in love with me?" — is more drowsy than sexy.

Only twice does she tap into the dark passions of her best work — on the haunting *Acquiesce* and the yearning finale of *I Want It All* — both of which hint at the obsessive sensuality of her greatest hit, *Constant Craving*.

Otherwise, it is quite a good album, in a not bad, *You're OK* sort of way.

SIMPLY RED
Life
(eastwest 0630-12069)

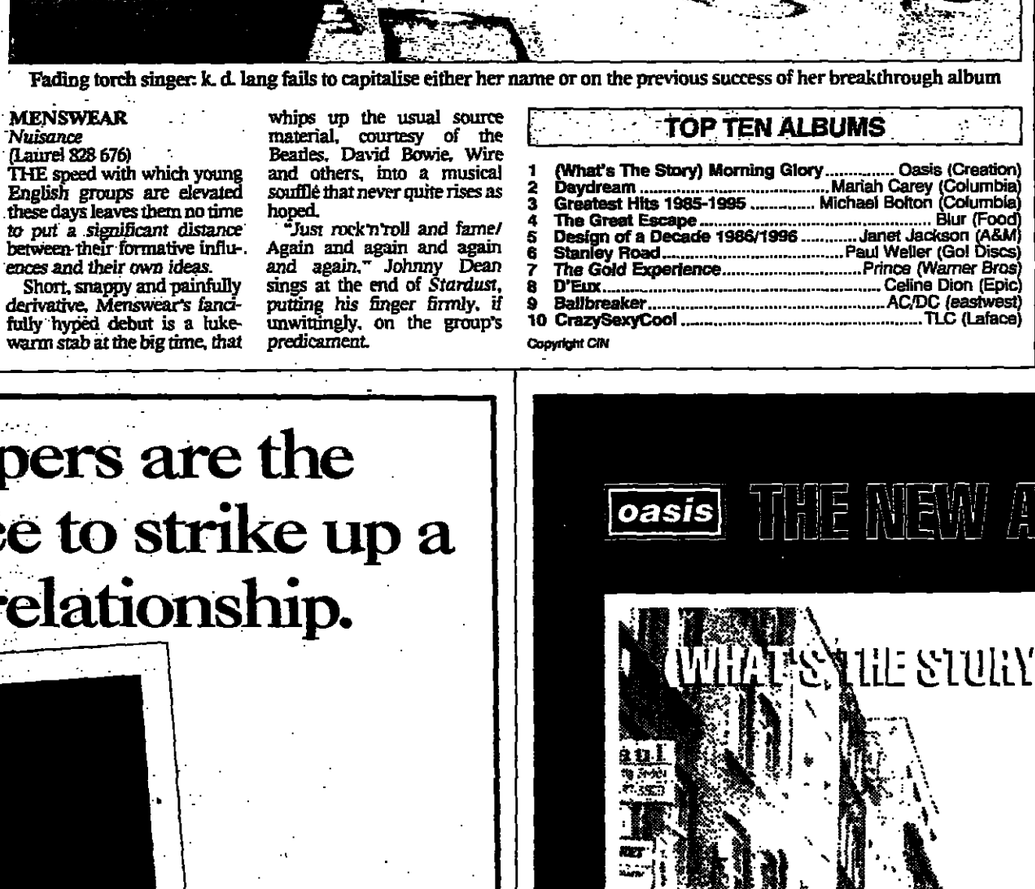
SIMPLY RED'S fifth album succeeds not so much as pop or soul music, let alone art, but more as a modern lifestyle accessory. And when a collection of songs comes so carefully tailored for the mass, middle(-aged) market as *Life*, the cut of the musical cloth is inevitably more Man at C & A than Savile Row.

Mick Hucknall is in fine vocal form throughout. Whether reaching for some high, throaty ad libs towards the end of the meandering *Out on the Range*, or turning on his sultry come-up-and-see-my-bedroom voice for the more intimate groove of *You Make Me Believe*, he has his chops down pat. The musicianship, likewise, is faultless, and special mention should go to Ian Kirkham for his sublime saxophone breaks on *Lives and Loves*.

The doubts creep in when you look beyond the obvious quality of the workmanship for signs of any depth. It is not to be found in the lyrics, which offer the usual seduction routines ("Fulfil all my fantasies/Moisten up all my warmest dreams") and pseudo-spiritual platitudes ("In the end God is the universe and the universe is you").

Nor is there much of consequence in the music itself. From the relaxed pulse of *Hillside Avenue* — an affable reggae song that will appeal to people who get on with UB40 — to the portentous finale of *We're in this Together*, a Michael Jackson-type message of solidarity with mankind, there is plenty of melodic poise but little heart.

The standout track, by some distance, is *Fairground*. An unusual song, propelled by a quietly sizzling riot of Brazilian percussion, it conjures a delicious air of, first, mystery (in the verse) and then joy (in the chorus). It has, of course, already topped the singles chart, so most people have probably heard the best of *Life*. Here is the rest.



Fading torch singer: k. d. lang fails to capitalise either her name or on the previous success of her breakthrough album

MENSWEAR
Nuisance
(Laurel 828 676)

THE speed with which young English groups are elevated these days leaves them no time to put a significant distance between their formative influences and their own ideas.

Short, snappy and painfully derivative, Menswear's fancifully hyped debut is a lukewarm stab at the big time, that whips up the usual source material, courtesy of the Beatles, David Bowie, Wire and others, into a musical soufflé that never quite rises as hoped.

"Just rock'n'roll and fame/ Again and again and again and again," Johnny Dean sings at the end of *Stardust*, putting his finger firmly, if unwittingly, on the group's predicament.

TOP TEN ALBUMS

1	(What's The Story) Morning Glory	Oasis (Creation)
2	Daydream	Mariah Carey (Columbia)
3	Greatest Hits 1985-1995	Michael Bolton (Columbia)
4	The Great Escape	Blur (Food)
5	Design of a Decade 1986/1996	Janet Jackson (A&M)
6	Stanley Road	Paul Weller (Go! Discs)
7	The Gold Experience	Prince (Warner Bros)
8	D'Eiux	Celine Dion (Epic)
9	Ballbreaker	AC/DC (eastwest)
10	CrazySexyCool	TLC (Laface)

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Camden's answer to Enrico Caruso?

Gavin Friday
Jazz Café, NW1

THE intimate world of Gavin Friday was not meant to be experienced beneath the neon glare of Camden Town's Jazz Cafe. However, with the help of red velvet curtains, a copper kettle and a dozen candles, Friday transformed the venue into a cross between boudoir, kitchen and church.

He looked at home on the opening show of a three-night stint, setting a stylish tone with a rhinestone-encrusted megaphone, pointing at a gilt-framed photograph and saying, "Let me introduce you to my friend, Enrico Caruso."

He then launched into *Caruso*, a tribute to the opera singer. As he immersed himself in the song, it was easy to think of Friday as the Caruso of pop — a great voice and a larger-than-life presence.

The song was given a surreal twist by a fan whose tall stature gained nine inches by a mohican haircut. His face was covered in thick make-up. "I haven't seen a white face in ten years," remarked Friday, then, nodding at the mohican, asked, "Do you use Immac or do you shave?"

Without waiting for a reply, Friday started Kurt Weill's *The Moon Is Blue*, and followed it with a few lines from Dietrich's *Lili Marlene*.

During *Kitchen Sink Drama*, Friday actually boiled the kettle and made a cup of tea. Then, in the closing *Angel*, he came down into the crowd. "Hold on," he sang to a woman, handing her his microphone while he disappeared backstage.

It was the perfect ending for Friday, who is part pop star, part cabaret star, but mostly old-fashioned showman.

ANN SCANLON

Fortysomething

Nick Heyward
Hanover Grand, W1

RARE indeed is the act from the misty innocence of the early Eighties that survives to teleport itself into the niche-marketed mid-Nineties. For every Edwyn Collins, there are a dozen Altered Images.

So, 14 years after he first adorned a 45 as the face at the front of Haircut 100, perhaps we should be grateful for the very idea of Nick Heyward: still with a major label, still able to assemble a "healthy airplay profile", yet somehow still standing in the shadow of younger days.

Leading a four-piece band, Heyward ruminated on life in the 40s — of the chart, that is, where his considerably played *The World* stalled just outside the key positions, as did five solo singles before it.

While Heyward retains a boyishness in looks and perspective, he is no eternal teenager: his solo records have displayed developing maturity amid uncluttered song construction and accessible lyricism. On 1993's *From Monday to Sunday* and again on *Tangled*, released next week by Epic, the naivety of his cover-boy years is cask-matured with resilience and wistfulness; *He Doesn't Love You Like I Do* showed the grown-up version of his boy-next-door charm.

While the set was commendably geared towards the Nick of the 1990s, there was no denying the spark that went through the room when he cast off the years to relive Haircut 100's *Fantastic Day* and *Love Plus One*. For a moment, the altered images became themselves again.

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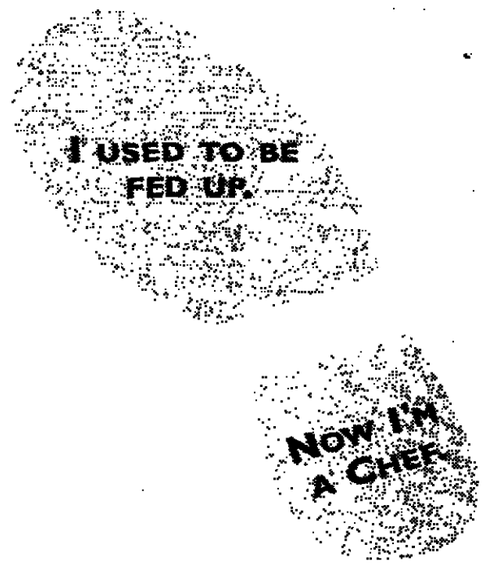
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EDUCATION

Near the top of the pile

Can education hold the political limelight until the general election? **John O'Leary** reports


ANDRE CAMARA

Tony Blair congratulates David Blunkett after the Shadow Education Secretary's speech at the Labour Party conference in Brighton

In an unguarded moment when the last election was called, Kenneth Clarke described education as a "second order" issue. Although Education Secretary at the time, he recognised that voting intentions hinged on tax and the state of the economy.

The attention devoted to education by Labour in the last few days, almost certainly to be matched next week by the Tories, would suggest a dramatic change of view by both parties. No leader's speech is complete without a commitment to put the subject right at the top of the next government's agenda.

But will the surge of interest be sustained in an election campaign, let alone beyond it? There is a suspicion that, like unemployment, education is becoming a "motherhood and apple pie" issue that pricks the conscience of the nation and establishes modernising credentials before politicians get down to serious business.

Opinion polls continue to rate education among the most important subjects for voters, although it never quite reaches the top of the pile. But party strategists obviously see the area as good for the image, as well as important for the nation.

George Bush started the trend with his pledge to be the "education President". John Major spoke in his election campaign of improving the status of teachers, and even John Redwood, in his challenge for the Tory leadership, exempted education from his proposed spending cuts. At this week's conference Tony Blair described education as the best economic policy there was.

Schools also featured among Labour's first spending commitments, with the promised use of money saved from abolishing the assisted places scheme to cut class sizes in infants' schools. Mr Major may counter next week by putting more money into assisted places and stressing the financial commitment involved in extending nursery provision.

Neither of the main parties, however, has given education the priority in its spending plans that its rhetoric might imply. Certainly neither will go as far as the Liberal Democrats, who are committed to a penny on income tax to pay for advances in education.

A recent opinion poll found 79 per cent of people willing to pay more tax for education, but those surveyed know that the chances of the policy being implemented are remote. They might react differently to such a proposal from Labour or the Conservatives.

Don Foster, the Liberal Democrat spokesman, says: "We will continue to promote the policy because we believe it to be right. Our polls show there is strong public support at the moment, partly because there is real anger over the funding of schools and concern about standards. Whether that will be sustained depends on Government action in the Budget."

Colin Rallings, whose unit at Plymouth University is the leading authority on local polls, believes that the issue has been influential in council elections but expects education to be less important in a general election.

Dr David Sanders, who has developed an econometric model of voting at Essex University, cannot envisage anything dislodging tax and subjective views of the state of the economy as the real key to the next election. "Both main parties see mileage in education, but if they think it will be a major issue, they are barking up the wrong tree. It is one of those areas where neither side can afford to let the other steal a march, but the number of people who will change their votes purely on the basis of education policy is likely to be very small."

For the moment, however, the unprecedentedly high profile seems set to continue. Labour is keen to exploit a massive opinion poll lead on the subject, while the Conservatives see areas of weakness for their opponents. In spite of the convergence of policy in many areas, there remain some key policies on which the Tories see the opportunity to establish some of that famous "clear blue water". Opting out is the most obvious example, with Labour still split on its approach, followed closely by assisted places.

But Gillian Shephard's leaked memo to last month's Cabinet summit at Chequers made it clear that there are votes to be lost, as well as won, on education. She identified school funding and student finance as two danger areas.

John Maples's leaked memo of last year made the same point, advising the Prime Minister to bury the subject because the public perception was of Government failure. So far, Mr Major has taken the opposite tack, hoping to win round the voters, but this may change if the polls tell the same story as the election gets closer.

Mr Blair can be expected to continue the search for new policies, although the spending commitments are likely to be vague. This week's trumping of the Government's nursery voucher scheme for four-year-olds was a classic example. Labour would "aim" to provide places for all three and four-year-olds.

However, for Labour the link between education and technology strikes just the right note. Deals such as the one with British Telecom to wire up every school are the model of forward-looking public/private partnership and, although Mr Blair emphasises the need for education for life, the subject fits well into the "young Britain" he promised at Brighton.

The moral for those concerned with education is that there has never been a better time to put an issue on the political agenda. But it may be as well to secure the firmest possible commitment before an election campaign starts, because when it does the old order is likely to be restored.

The agony of being a student's parents

Why we feel one degree under

NatWest Bank has got it partly right in its recent advertisement: "Next week spells the end of loud music, dirty clothes and unwashed plates."

Students are better educated, better dressed and better fed, but they still need their parents to take them to college. Our student daughter had just come back from Interailing on Wednesday, and had to be ready to go to college on Sunday in Nottingham.

It is, of course, usually a family effort. Everyone was galvanised into action. I had to take the films to be developed with strict instructions to get them back in three days. My wife had to get the washing done and ironed. The ball gown had to be repaired, the bedroom turned over.

How much could we pack in the car, what would be needed? Our old, spare, electrical goods had to be put into working order. Brown plugs had to be replaced by white ones. Grandma's old iron was pressed into service. A sandwich toaster that had never been cleaned by the children in its long life had to be spotless before being taken to college.

We were fretting about her room, the meals, she about her grant, what clothes to wear, the time to get there.

The night before we piled essential belongings in the hallway. We had one last shouting fit, something along the lines of "What happens if the grant doesn't arrive?" One sign of drug-taking is said to be violent mood swings. We must all be on something in our house.

Though our student was under extreme stress, she still had time to go out until two in the morning — but this did not mean that parents could slack off.

When the day arrived, we had to be woken at seven to leave at nine. We made last-minute checks. Yes, she was wearing the right clothes. The car was loaded and by ten past nine we were off to Nottingham. Our student was going to drive because she had not been on a motorway before and needed the experience.

We found the hall, parked and wandered in. We arrived just after midday and the place was busy. Parents were manhandling cases, boxes, plants... Students are a self-sufficient lot but it seems that they can't leave home without television sets, video players, bikes, computers and pot plants. We met Tim, the hall president, who wore round wire glasses and a T-shirt. Pity I had got rid of mine all those years ago.

We settled in and our daughter's personal tutor popped in to see us. We set off to the dining hall for a set meal. I was under orders not to show anyone up. I was not to annoy the cool people. I was told they were the ones who had come without their parents. I could relax, however, as most of them looked only about 12 years old.

After the meal we went back to our daughter's room. By this time our student was starting to relax because she had been fed and had discovered that she had somewhere to sleep. The parents were now becoming less useful: in fact, they were becoming a bit of an embarrassment. How could you go looking for the cool people with a couple of middle-aged parents hanging about?

No, that's our little handyman... dad's too cool to come here


GED

After clothes, the other difficult area is music. Before we could put on a CD, we had to check what everyone else was playing. We heard Oasis from another room but we thought that was a bit safe, so we plumped for PJ Harvey (a kind of downbeat version of Leonard Cohen).

I volunteered to go and introduce myself to the other students reading law, but this was not appreciated. We were now completely redundant and we decided to leave. We said our farewells and no doubt the next time we see our student she will be a veteran. Perhaps then I will get to meet the cool people.

PETER WADE

Prejudiced against TV

Good books can bypass the centuries better than TV can


What can filmed adaptations of novels such as *Pride and Prejudice* teach schoolchildren?

I can just imagine the scene. I've seen it so often: English teachers all over the country earnestly video-recording *Pride and Prejudice*, the BBC's latest literary travesty. Then, over the next few years, until this *Pride and Prejudice* is superseded by yet another, thousands of teenagers will, at the instigation of misguided teachers, spend hours of valuable English lesson time "doing" a great English novel by gawping at something that has been reduced to a trite and trivialised Regency "soap". Teachers will tell us piously that they are covering "pre-20th-century literature" as the national curriculum requires.

There are several reasons why dramatisations of novels have nothing to do with reading, developing literary awareness or stimulating the imagination.

However fine a reader you are — and many (most?) schoolchildren are light years away from this — once you have seen someone else's interpretation it becomes a stronger mental image than the delicate one your mind might conjure. So if you've once glimpsed Colin Firth's smouldering Darcy, that will be what you "see" if and when you read the book. Even if you have already read it, the new visual image is superimposed.

I still "see" Dr Zhivago with Omar Sharif's face and I can't read *The Mayor of Casterbridge* without memories of Alan Bates's Henchard coming between me and the text. Any Eng Lit examiner will tell you that there are always a lot of candidates whose papers are so dominated by images and ideas from the dramatisation of *Of Mice and Men*, *Ring of Bright Water* and others that it is assumed they haven't read their set books at all.

Secondly, the whole point and joy of reading is that the author speaks directly to the reader. An Austen-Elkin hotline, from her brain to mine, bypasses nearly two centuries, class differences, geography and all the rest of it. She and I have no need of any other interpreter. In this, of course, novels are different from plays, which need actors to bring them to life, or music, which needs to be performed.

English teachers should be trying to find ways of helping young people to experience the magic of "hearing" the voice of our great writers — rather than littering young minds with dramatisations and second-hand pictures.

> 'Watching' a novel has little to do with reading it

Thirdly, any dramatisation — however "authentic" — stands in the same relation to its base novel as a lurid, frothy, junk-food trifle does to an honest and wholesome sponge cake. The novel becomes an ingredient — squashed, soaked and rehashed, then presented in a totally different form. New ingredients get mixed in, too. The *Pride and Prejudice* theme music opens with a descending piano scale. Where is James Herriot? It sounds as if he's due at any minute. After a bit of pastiche neo-classical, it resorts to the syrupy strings of the Palm Court Muzak genre. Not much authenticity here. Music in this context is a distraction, anyway. No, "watching" a novel has little to do with reading it.

Jane Austen is literature's answer to Mozart. Her wit and verve sparkle and ripple almost perfectly. But it's entirely verbal. And that unique quality disappears in "translation" to another medium. Austen's people speak to each other; usually, but not invariably, indoors. But that is too static for drama, so scenes get moved. Thus Andrew Davies has Mrs Bennet's initial announcement to her husband that an eligible bachelor has taken the tenancy of Netherfield Hall take place — most incongruously — as the family hurries home from church.

Neither is there an authorial voice in Davies's *Pride and Prejudice* to persuade and incline the reader's sympathies. We know from what they say just how vulgar and ill-bred are Jane Austen's Miss Bingley and Mrs Hurst.

Of course, there's a lot of money bound up in all this. It costs millions of pounds per episode, we are told. A commercially ingenious, but otherwise rather pointless "tie-in" book called *The Making of Pride and Prejudice* is already published. Sales of *Pride and Prejudice*, complete with BBC photographs on the cover, will, no doubt, rocket — as we saw with *Middlemarch* last year. I wonder how many hapless purchasers will actually read what they've bought once they discover that Jane Austen's language is in a rather different register from the bland banality of blockbuster TV drama.

Any minute, I'm sure, the BBC will cash in further by publishing some sort of *Pride and Prejudice* teachers' pack, as it did with *Middlemarch*, to assist those schools that have decided to "teach" this novel through the watered-down misery of the dramatised version.

Ours is a brave new world in which far too much of life is already ruled by the visual media. It is the job of English teachers to expose young people to as many written words, especially those of our finest exponents, as possible. I wish they would erase the series from both the tapes and their thinking. *Pride and Prejudice* deserves to be read. To fob schoolchildren off with a video is to sell them short.

SUSAN ELKIN

EDUCATION

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Wales on verge of historic victory

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

WALES recorded one of the most remarkable victories in the long history of the women's home international golf championship when they came from behind to defeat England, the holders, 5-4 at Wrexham yesterday. Success against Scotland today will give them their first title.

Ireland edged to a 5-4 victory over Scotland in the other second-day match, and they will complete the series by facing England. Trailing 2-1 after the morning foursomes, Wales fought back to capture four of the six singles, with the winning point coming from Vicki Thomas, the former Curtis Cup player, who recovered from a two-hole deficit early in the match to beat Emma Duggleby 2 and 1.

Another heroine was the newest member of the team, Louise Davis. She has won all of her three games so far and yesterday clinched a vital point when she overcame Joanne Oliver on the final green.

Ireland won two of the three foursomes against Scotland but then had to stave off a revival by their opponents in the afternoon.

For much of the day the drama unfolding on the course was overshadowed by the news that Sue Lovatt, of Wales, had walked out after being omitted from the first-day line-up.

She left despite having been included in the foursomes pairing for yesterday's match. The chairman of the Welsh Ladies' Golf Union, Joan Neville, said: "As far as we know she went home for personal reasons but we are trying to get to the bottom of the matter."

Results, page 43

Old rivals aim to set World Cup alight

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

RUGBY league puts its troubles behind it tomorrow as the action leaves the committee rooms and explodes onto the turf of Wembley Stadium in the opening match of the Halifax World Cup — England against Australia.

There is a familiar onus on the players to make up for the fine mess those running the game have got it into. The good news is that there are the teams and individuals, notwithstanding Australia's Super League absentees, capable of putting on a show worthy of rugby league's centenary celebrations.

At least the harmony will not now begin and end with the singer, Diana Ross, in the opening festivities at Wembley. Hatchets were buried at the opening banquet at the Cafe Royal in London on Wednesday by Maurice Lindsay, the tournament director and chief executive of the Rugby Football League, and Ken Arthurson, his Australian counterpart and director-general of the International Rugby League Board; it is a temporary peace, nonetheless.

Hostilities will resume when a new international authority under the Super League banner is formed next month. This will leave the Australian Rugby League (ARL) isolated, but hanging on to control in its country and still confident of winning the continuing court battle in Sydney to prevent the Super League there from starting at the same time as the Anglo-French version next March.

In the meantime, the "athletes can do the talking", Lindsay said. They will, but not yet, while the cloud of sluggish ticket sales hangs over an event inadequately promoted and poorly sold, Wembley, possibly less than half-full tomorrow, and the prospect of a return there for the final on October 28, will not be a ringing declaration of a sport in rude health.

The involvement of 17 countries in the tournament and the emerging nations event is the most encouraging aspect of the forthcoming three weeks. Yet for all the footholds being gained globally and a new-found sense of internationalism, the game in England is still locked in stasis around its northern territories, with no genuine sign, as yet, of breaking out.

Whether the Super League will do the trick, since the World Cup is fast taking on the look of another missed opportunity, remains to be seen. It will require a far harder sell. Losing Martin Offiah, through injury, for the showpiece opening match and having the other leading player in the promotional campaign, Jonathan Davies, on the verge of returning to rugby union, has not helped this tournament.

In its 41-year history, the World Cup, a moveable and often unwieldy feast in the past, has failed to grip the public imagination in the way meetings between Great Britain and Australia have, or used to do, as the ARL has declared the Ashes series over because of the Super League's emergence. This confrontation is the reason more than 73,000 attended the 1992 World Cup final and, perhaps, why the ill-advised division into England and Wales has diluted the attraction this time.

As Australia, captained by a veteran of 1992 in Brad Fittler, have weakened their team by ignoring Super League players, the effect has been to balance the tournament's outcome. England are missing only Davies and Kelvin Skerrett from last year's Great Britain side, so there is no better chance of ending Australia's 20-year dominance.

The threat to the two favourites is three-fold. There have been enough disappointments and let-downs to dismiss New Zealand on one hand. On the other, the sum of their many splendid parts must add up sometime. As they will almost certainly meet the winners of Saturday's match in the semi-finals, New Zealand will be willing on England. They were beaten three times by Australia in the summer.

From the most competitive of the three groups, Wales or Western Samoa, the potential surprise package, should emerge, unless the erratic French come good. As they showed in taking the European championship last season, Wales, thanks to sons of Welsh grandfathers, have the pack to supplement the quicksilver in the back line. Their meeting with the Samoans at Swansea on Sunday week is the other plum group match.

Fiji and Tonga should be competitive with a number of their players steeled in the furnace of Australian competition, and Papua New Guinea will be no pushovers. South Africa are the probable exception, and a thrashing by Australia and England will do little good for a game struggling to start there.

Let the good fight be fought. Rugby league needs it.



Fittler, a veteran of the 1992 World Cup, captains Australia this time

SPORT IN BRIEF

Higgins pays dearly for inexperience

JOHN PARROTT reached the semi-finals of the Thailand Classic snooker tournament in Bangkok yesterday with a 5-3 victory over John Higgins, winner of three ranking events last season (Phil Yates writes). While not at his best, Higgins recovered from the loss of the first frame to lead 3-2, but, 36-10 ahead in the sixth, he missed a straightforward red and Parrott cleared to the pink with 51 to draw level at 3-3.

That reversal unsettled Higgins, who jawed a simple red early in the seventh frame. Parrott fashioned a clinical 124 break to lead 4-3 before winning the eighth frame by clearing from the last red to blue after laying a difficult snooker from which Higgins narrowly failed to escape. Parrott, who will now meet Stephen Hendry for a place in the best-of-17 frame final, said: "I think John's inexperience showed in the last frame when he took on a red he shouldn't have done, but there is probably more pressure on him these days, bearing in mind he won three titles last season."

Steelers go Dutch

ICE HOCKEY: Sheffield Steelers begin their European campaign in Tilburg, Holland, tonight, hopeful of at least equalling the performance of Cardiff Devils, who last year became the first British club to reach the second round of the Europa Cup (Norman de Mesquita writes). It will be harder, though, for the Steelers because the structure of the competition has been altered and only one team will go through from the group matches this weekend instead of two, as last year. Sheffield play Tilburg this evening (7pm), Olimpija Ljubljana, of Slovenia, tomorrow (2pm) and Txuri-Urdin, of Spain, on Sunday (2.30pm). All the games are being shown live on Sky.

Olympic hopes dashed

GYMNASTICS: Britain's hopes of qualifying for the Olympic Games were wrecked when Annika Reeder, Zita Lusack and Gemma Cuffall fell from the asymmetric bars at the world championships in Sabae, Japan. The team finished 22nd in the compulsory exercises, a position which cannot be sufficiently improved by the voluntary routines today and tomorrow. The men face a similar fate after finishing seventeenth in the compulsories.

Yankees kept waiting

BASEBALL: Jim Leyritz brought the longest play-off game in American League history to a satisfactory conclusion for the New York Yankees, hitting a two-run home run in the fifteenth inning to defeat Seattle 7-5. The victory gave New York a 2-0 lead in the best-of-five series. In the other American League contest, Cleveland lead Boston 2-0, while in the National League, Atlanta and Cincinnati lead 2-0 against Colorado and Los Angeles respectively.

Crowds greet Sri Lanka

CRICKET: The Sri Lanka squad enjoyed a tumultuous homecoming in Katunayake yesterday after their historic tour of Pakistan, during which they won both the Test and one-day series. Each member of the touring party was showered with garlands at the airport before parading past crowds waving banners and letting off firecrackers.

☐ Kevin Shine, the Middlesex fast bowler, has been released after two years with the county.

Queen's Bench Division — Law Report October 6 1995 — Court of Appeal

Policy on parole is unreasonable

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department and Another, Ex parte Norney and Others

Before Mr Justice Dyson

[Judgment September 28]

The policy applied by the Home Secretary in refusing to refer the cases of discretionary life prisoners to the Parole Board until after the expiry of the "tariff period" of their sentences, was unreasonable, producing manifestly unjust results and was therefore unlawful.

However, the approach of the chairman of the Parole Board, in declining to accelerate the board's hearing of the applicants' cases, could not be impugned.

Mr Justice Dyson so held in the Queen's Bench Division, in refusing (i) declarations that Paul Norney, Stephen Nordone, Brendan Dowd, Sean Kinsella and Noel Gibson were entitled to Parole Board hearings no longer than one month after the expiry of such tariff periods; (ii) an order of certiorari quashing the decision of Mr Justice Potts refusing to order expedition of those hearings.

Mr Edward Fitzgerald, QC, for the applicants; Mr Kenneth Parker, QC, for the Home Secretary.

MR JUSTICE DYSON said that in May 1976 the applicants, members of the Provisional IRA, were sentenced to terms of life imprisonment. In 1992 each was notified, pursuant to paragraph 9 of Schedule 12 to the Criminal Justice Act 1991, that the secretary of state had fixed a period of 20 years as the tariff period element of his sentence, that period considered necessary for the purposes of retribution and deterrence.

Those periods were due to expire on various dates early in July 1995. The other element of the sentence, to begin thereafter, was the risk element, designed to protect the public against the danger of re-offending in a similar way: see *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex part Doody* ([1994] 1 AC 531, 550F-G).

On March 29, 1995 the applicants' solicitors wrote to the Home Secretary asking that their cases be referred to the Parole Board forthwith, and that steps be taken to ensure that the cases were heard by the board immediately on the expiry of the tariff periods.

It was implicit in the Home Secretary's replies that he accepted that he had a discretion to refer the cases before the expiry of the tariff periods, but that he declined to do so in the absence of any compelling reason.

The background to the 1991 Act had been *Thynne, Wilson and Gunnell v United Kingdom* (*The Times* December 10, 1990; [1990] 13 EHRR 666) where the European Court of Human Rights had upheld a claim that English law infringed article 5(4) of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1953) (Cmd 8969) which provided: "Everyone who is deprived of liberty ... shall be entitled to take proceedings by which the lawfulness of his detention shall be decided speedily by a court and his release ordered if the detention is not lawful."

Section 34 of the 1991 Act provides:

"(3) As soon as ... a discretionary life prisoner (a) has served [his tariff period] and (b) the [Parole] Board has directed his release under this section, it shall be the duty of the secretary of state to release him on licence.

"(4) The board shall not give a direction under subsection (3) above ... unless (a) the secretary of state has referred the prisoner's case to the board; and (b) the board is satisfied that it is no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the prisoner should be confined.

"(5) A discretionary life prisoner may require the secretary of state to refer his case to the board at any time — (a) after he has served the relevant part of his sentence. ..."

The Home Secretary's policy of not, without some compelling reason, referring any discretionary lifer's case to the board until after the expiry of his tariff period, was unreasonable within *Associated Provincial Picture Houses Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223), and therefore unlawful.

It flouted the principles of common law and the European Convention on Human Rights, in the cases of prisoners who were no longer dangerous, and produced manifestly unjust results, by effectively increasing every tariff period by 23 weeks, the length of the timetable laid down by Parole Board rules.

There would accordingly be a declaration that the Home Secretary should have referred the applicants' cases to the Parole Board at such times as would have ensured, so far as practicable, that their cases were heard by it immediately upon the expiry of their tariff periods or shortly after.

However, the applicants' attack on the conduct of the board had to fail on the facts. Its practice in all terrorist cases was for them to be considered by a panel chaired by a member who was a High Court judge, of which there were only two.

In the circumstances, the board had no alternative but to accept the references at the time they were made and to apply the normal procedure to them. Until the panel heard the evidence and arguments it was impossible to say that the applicants had stronger cases for release than those whose cases had already been listed for hearing up to December 1995. Relief against the chairman's decision not to order an expedited hearing of their cases was accordingly refused.

Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

Setting aside grant of leave

First Tokyo Index Trust Ltd v Morgan Stanley Trust Co and Others. Ashurst Morris Crisp and Others, third parties

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Thorpe

[Judgment October 4]

The purpose of the requirement of leave to appeal, to provide a filter to save unnecessary time and expense, was at risk where the grant of leave by the single lord justice was followed by application to the full Court of Appeal for it to be set aside.

Such an application could only succeed by satisfying a high threshold test and the interests of all court users, viewed in the round, were best served if the grant of leave were treated, save in the most obvious cases, as conclusive.

The Court of Appeal so stated dismissing an application by the first and second defendants, Morgan Stanley Trust Co and Morgan Stanley UK Group, for reconsideration of leave to appeal granted by Lord Justice Peter Gibson on paper on the ex parte application of the first third party, Ashurst Morris Crisp, from Mr Justice Blackburne who had refused their application that the claims made against them in the action brought against the defendants by the plaintiff, First Tokyo Index Trust Ltd, be struck out under Order 18, rule 19 of the Rules of the Supreme Court or under the inherent jurisdiction of the court.

Mr Mark Barnes, QC for the first and second defendants; Mr Christopher Carr, QC and Mr John McCaughran for the first third party.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS referred to *The Iran Nabuvat* ([1990] 1 WLR 1115, 1117-1118), where Lord Donaldson of Lymington, Master of the Rolls, had said that if one lord justice thought an appeal was arguable it was really necessary for an applicant seeking a reconsideration of that grant of leave to be able to point to a factor not drawn to the lord justice's attention, or to the fact that he had overlooked a statutory provision or an authority which was decisive in the sense that the appeal would inevitably fail.

His Lordship said that inconsistent observations made in other cases had occasionally be relied on but that the passage he had referred to was the authoritative statement of the law setting out the rule which the court applied.

The full court would not set aside leave granted by the lord justice even if of opinion that it would probably not have granted leave itself or that the lord justice was being over indulgent to the prospective appellant in granting leave.

The rationale of that rule of practice was to be found in considerations of practical efficiency and also of justice. The requirement of leave was a filter to obviate the expenditure of money and court time on appeals which had no hope of success.

The decision whether to grant leave was usually made in the first instance on paper by the single lord justice who would refuse leave if of clear opinion that the appeal was not arguable.

He would be anxious not to stifle appeals which might succeed, even if sceptical of their chances and would give the prospective appellant the benefit of the doubt.

The object of the procedure was to avoid waste of unnecessary time and money and to cut out unnecessary expense and delay which represented a form of injustice to litigants.

Obviously that object was frustrated if the grant of leave was followed by an application to set aside, unless the application was unanswerable as *The Iran Nabuvat* test required.

Otherwise there was a risk that a procedure intended to save cost and delay increased both, by inserting two procedures, the grant of leave on paper and the application to set aside, in addition to the hearing of the appeal itself.

It was to minimise that risk that a high threshold was imposed for applications to set aside the leave granted by the single lord justice. The interests of all court users, viewed in the round, were best served if the grant of leave was treated in all but the most obvious cases as conclusive.

It was his Lordship's clear view that in the present case there was nothing to suggest that *The Iran Nabuvat* test was satisfied and that leave should not be set aside.

Lord Justice Henry delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Thorpe agreed.

Solicitors: Richards Butler; Ince & Co.

International Law Report — The Hague

New Zealand case against French tests fails

New Zealand v France

Before Judge Bedjaoui, President, Judge Schwebel, Vice-President and Judges Oda, Guillaume, Shahabuddeen, Weeramantry, Ranjeva, Herczegh, Shi, Fleischhauer, Koroma, Vereshchetin, Ferrari Bravo, Higgins and Judge ad hoc Palmer

Registrar E. Valencia-Ospina

[Judgment September 22]

The International Court of Justice had no jurisdiction to reopen in relation to underground nuclear tests a finding in 1974 based on a claim relating to atmospheric nuclear tests.

The International Court, by a majority of 12 to three (Judges Weeramantry, Koroma and Judge ad hoc Palmer dissenting), dismissed a request for an examination of the situation in accordance with paragraph 63 of the judgment of the court of December 20, 1974 in *Nuclear Tests (New Zealand v France)* ([1974] ICJ Reports 457) submitted by New Zealand on August 21, 1995 as not falling within the provisions of that paragraph.

The request by New Zealand for provisional measures and applications to intervene and declarations of intervention by Australia, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, the Marshall Islands and the Federated State of Micronesia were consequently also dismissed.

The Court said that New Zealand founded its request on paragraph 63 of the judgment of December 20, 1974, which provided:

"Once the Court has found that a State has entered into a commitment concerning its future conduct it is not the Court's function to contemplate that it will not comply with it. However ... if the basis of this judgment were to be affected, the applicant could request an examination of the situation in accordance with the provisions of the Statute; the denunciation by France, by letter dated January 2, 1974, of the General Act for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes, which is relied on as a basis of jurisdiction ... cannot constitute by itself an obstacle to the presentation of such a request."

The question had to be answered in limine whether the requests submitted to the Court fell within the provisions of paragraph 63 of the judgment of December 20, 1974, and the present proceedings had been limited to that question.

The question had two elements: one concerning the courses of procedure envisaged by the Court in paragraph 63 when it stated that the applicant could request an examination of the situation in accordance with the provisions of the Statute, and the other concerning the question whether the basis of the judgment had been affected within the meaning of paragraph 63.

As to the first element, New Zealand expressed the view that paragraph 63 was a mechanism enabling the continuation or resumption of the proceedings of 1973 and 1974; they had not been fully determined. The Court had foreseen that the course of future events might require that New Zealand should have that opportunity to continue its case, the progress of which had been stopped in 1974, and to that end the Court had, in paragraph 63, authorised the present derivative proceedings. ...

New Zealand added that in pointing to the provisions of the Statute paragraph 63 could only be referring to the procedure applicable to the examination of the situation once the request had been made. New Zealand was not seeking an interpretation of the 1974 judgment, nor a revision of that judgment.

France said that, as the Court had stated, the possible steps to which it alluded were subject to compliance with the provisions of the Statute, and that that principle would apply even if the Court had not so specified. Any activity of the Court was governed by the Statute, which circumscribed the power of the Court and prescribed the conduct states had to observe, from which it was not possible for them to depart even by agreement. France submitted that New Zealand did not invoke any provision of the Statute. The request was not one for interpretation or revision, nor was it a new application.

In laying down, in paragraph 63, that the applicant could request examination of the situation in the circumstances there set out, the Court could not have intended to limit the application to legal procedures such as the filing of a new application, a request for interpretation or a request for revision, which would have been open to any event.

Neither had the Court excluded a special procedure in the event that the circumstances mentioned in the paragraph arose. Such a procedure was indissociably linked with the existence of those circumstances, and if they did not arise the procedure was not available.

To consider the second element of the question raised the Court had to define the basis of the judgment of 1974 by an analysis of its text.

The Court in 1974 had found that for the purposes of that application the New Zealand claim was to be interpreted as applying only to atmospheric tests so conducted as to give rise to radioactive fallout on New Zealand territory.

In making its findings the Court had dealt with the question whether New Zealand, in filing its application in 1973, might have had broader objectives than the cessation of atmospheric tests. Since the current task of the Court was limited to an analysis of the 1974 judgment it could not now reopen that question.

The basis of the judgment of 1974 was France's undertaking not to conduct any further atmospheric nuclear tests. It was only in the event of resumption of such tests that the basis of the judgment would have been affected and that hypothesis had not materialised.

Consequently the Court could not take into account questions relating to underground nuclear tests or the arguments derived by New Zealand from the conditions in which France had conducted such tests since 1974 and from the development of international law in recent decades.

The basis of the 1974 judgment had not been affected and New Zealand's request did not fall within paragraph 63. The request had to be dismissed. The Court likewise would dismiss New Zealand's further request for the indication of provisional measures and the applications to intervene submitted by Australia, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, the Marshall Islands and the Federated State of Micronesia and the declarations of intervention made by the last four states.

Scots Law Report October 6 1995

Use as agricultural holding

City of Aberdeen District Council v Ben Reid & Co Ltd

Before Lord Hamilton

[Judgment August 3]

A garden centre was not necessarily an "agricultural holding"; whether it was would depend on the relative use made of the land, on the one hand, for the propagation of plants, and, on the other, for the retail and wholesale sale of plants, whether grown there or brought in, and other goods.

Lord Hamilton so held in the Outer House of the Court of Session allowing proof before answer in an answer in an action brought by the City of Aberdeen District Council against Ben Reid & Co Ltd concluding for declarator that certain subjects over which the pursuers had granted a lease in favour of the defenders were not an "agricultural holding" within the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Acts of 1949 and 1991.

Mr Duncan Menzies, QC, for the pursuers; Mr Gordon Reid, QC, for the defenders.

LORD HAMILTON said that the lease provided: "The ground leased shall only be used by the tenants ... for the operation thereon of their business of seedsmen and nurserymen including without prejudice to the foregoing generality the wholesale and retail sale of the products of the business and the carrying on generally of the usual business of a retail garden centre."

The pursuers contended that actual user was a matter of fact which could not be resolved without proof. The pursuers were offering to prove that the predominant use of the subjects was the business activity of selling, wholesale and retail, garden plants, garden tools, seeds, compost, chemicals and trees. Sale was not restricted to produce of the subjects: items were brought in for resale. They submitted that they had relevantly averred a basis on which the court would be entitled to hold that the actual use of the subjects was otherwise than for agriculture.

In his Lordship's opinion, the terms of the user clause did not per se negative agricultural use. Among other considerations, the expression "the usual business of a retail garden centre" did not exclude the possibility that the subjects on which such a business was carried on might be an agricultural holding: see *Short v Greeves* ([1988] 1 EGLR 1).

The pursuers however averred that the predominant use was not agricultural but the retail and wholesale sale of plants and other goods. To obtain declarator they would require to establish that as a matter of substance the land comprised in the tenancy, taken as a whole, was otherwise than an agricultural holding: see *Howkins v Jardine* ([1951] 1 KB 614).

His Lordship was unable to accept the defenders' submission that the pursuers' averments of use were consistent only with use for agriculture. Much would depend on the relationship between the use of the subjects for the propagation of products of the soil and their use as a shop for the sale of bought-in plants and other goods would also be material.

Law agents: Bennett & Robertson; Ledingham Chalmers.

Challenging curriculum pushes pupils to limit

Williams sees future in driving seat of learning

Oliver Holt on a school fuelling young hopes of Formula One graduation

THE fresh faces and the wide-eyed enthusiasm had given Frank Williams something to think about. The computerised flight map on his private jet showed it was nearing the French coast on the short journey back to Oxford but his mind was racing on to more distant ends. Michael Schumacher seems to have cornered the market in winning the Formula One drivers' world championship but new challengers are on the horizon.

The Williams team owner had just seen a vision of the future, a greenhouse for young drivers run by the Elf fuel company in the shadow of the circuit at Le Mans. They call it a motor sport university, a racing version of Bisham Abbey, and, earlier this week, Williams welcomed its first British "student", Matthew Davies, 18, a karting prodigy weighed down with titles and awards.

Davies, from Essex, still has a long way to go. He is racing in a domestic French series called Formula Campus, now, and the next step is Formula Renault. From there, if he is good enough, he will progress to Formula Three and then, possibly, to Formula 3000 and finally Formula One. If Elf takes its plans to their logical extent, it may establish a junior grand prix team into which it can feed the outstanding products of its system.

By the time Davies and his contemporaries, who are drawn from as far afield as the United States, Mexico, Japan and Spain, filter through, Schumacher may be in the autumn of his career. He may even have turned his back on motor sport by then with a clutch of championships in his grasp. But his present domination infuses initiatives like Elf's La Filière driving school with an added significance. The more young drivers that are given the chance to shine at subsidised courses like this, the more will come through to challenge the very best.

Schumacher's dominance is such that, even though the Williams-Renault is generally considered to be the best car in the grand prix field, the German in his Benetton-Renault stands on the brink of his second successive championship, a commanding 27 points ahead of Damon Hill with three races to go. Everyone is searching for someone who might take on the young German among the present crop but with David Coulthard lost to McLaren, Williams has had to look further afield.

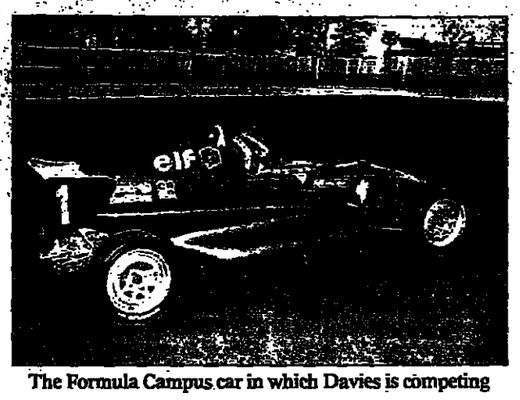
"Usually, Williams has gone for the best drivers available," he said. "In previous years, we would usually have a choice of Alain Prost, Ayrton Senna or Nigel Mansell and if you got any one of those guys, you could have a good honest crack at the championship. I am not denigrating our guys but today it is a little bit different.

"This season, Michael Schumacher has proved he is a bit special. You therefore might be motivated to look for someone else to emerge, someone to come from somewhere and it is not apparent that that will happen in Europe. That is one of the reasons why we have taken Jacques Villeneuve from IndyCars."

By now, the nine-seater Falcon 50 that is testimony to the Williams team's engineering excellence and acumen in choosing drivers is nearly back at base in Oxford. At Le Mans, Davies is preparing for the final race of the Formula Campus series and an attempt to improve his position of eighth in the championship.

Next year, he will move to France to study at the school full-time, racing in Formula Renault, learning more about the mechanical side of the cars and the public relations and legal arenas that are an essential part of a modern driver's portfolio. "It is an honour for me to be here," he said. "Motor racing is an expensive business and Elf's sponsorship of young drivers is the best chance I have got of reaching Formula One."

Just before the plane lands, Williams thinks back for a minute to the best young drivers he ever saw. Prost was not immediately impressive, he said, but Ayrton Senna, in a Toleman, and Schumacher, in a Jordan, at Spa in 1991 had impressed themselves on his memory. Villeneuve in a Williams in the first race of the season in Melbourne next March has a heavy weight of expectation on his shoulders.



The Formula Campus car in which Davies is competing



Davies, a karting prodigy at 18, is seeking to take the fast track to motor racing success as the first British student at the Elf company's La Filière school

Boardman prepares for road to recovery

By Peter Bryan

CHRIS BOARDMAN returns to competitive cycling on Sunday for the first time since crashing out of the Tour de France 14 weeks ago. He will contest a 25-mile time-trial on the Delamere Forest circuit in Cheshire, an event that he has won six times.

"I am not 100 per cent fit," he said yesterday after an hour-long training session at the Manchester Velodrome, "but you can discount any suggestion that I will not be riding to win. I shall. If I don't win, it will not be a disaster, only a disappointment."

The time-trial, restricted to the top 50 riders in the country, has all the makings of a grand finale to the domestic season. Boardman will be the last man to ride: five minutes ahead of him will be Gethin Butler, Britain's best all-round champion, while Richard Prebble, a three-times national time-trial winner, will start ten minutes before the Olympic pursuit champion.

Boardman said that he was satisfied with his recovery from the double fracture of his left ankle and the broken right wrist sustained when he crashed going into a left-hand bend on a wet road. He also confirmed that the fall had severed tendons and nerves in his left foot. "It might be possible, later, to reverse the damage, but I don't contemplate surgery," he said.

Boardman's return to the track is scheduled for October 23, in Paris, where the opposition will include Graeme Obree, who took his world pursuit title last week.

Television gets ready to call the tune for rugby

Gerald Davies looks at the changes a professional game must prepare for

Each week, an item of rugby news challenges the sport's attachment to its past. While the history of over 100 years is being dismantled piece by piece, there is, as yet, no coherent vision of what the future might hold. Players, clubs and administrators are all having to fly by the seat of their collective pants.

Who would have anticipated, for example, the swiftness with which the barriers between rugby union and rugby league have been torn down, bringing Jonathan Davies to the brink of returning to the union game. Since he left Wales for Widnes in 1989, his spirit has hovered over Welsh rugby, pricking the consciences of all those who, by their mean and narrow view of what his talent represented, forced him to go. How quickly will he adapt to the different tactics of the game he left seven years ago? Will he find that he is taking part in a sport that is rapidly forced to change its ways? Might it begin to resemble more and more the sport he is now hoping to leave?

This freedom of passage between the two codes raises other issues. If, so far, it is the administrative details and financial values that have primarily occupied attention, what of the game itself and how it is played? Certain members of the international board had been wrestling with the laws before the game declared itself professional. They are known to want to consider changes.

Originally, they were prompted by fears that rugby was becoming less varied and therefore less interesting. For example, they have been considering the dimensions of the playing area. With greater fitness, speed and size among the players, the dimensions of the pitch, which have remained almost unchanged since the game's beginnings, are now thought to be inadequate. If this area cannot be widened because it is fixed within the parameters of a stadium, then it is felt that other options, like the reduction in the number of players from 15 to 13, are possible.

Other changes may be fundamental and far-reaching. Indeed, there are those within rugby union who already believe that, with rugby league, a hybrid game should be devised. If the motivation behind this idea stems from a lack of movement and continuity and the need to brighten things up, the free market forces of professional rugby union will help concentrate minds further. The need to generate finance will be a priority — in which case, television will play an increasingly influential role, as it has in the southern hemisphere.

> 'Financial expediency will be the guiding principle'

For all the admirably fine words about needing the levels of audiences that terrestrial television is capable of delivering in order to develop interest in the game, the rugby union authorities will have to succumb to a different philosophy. Financial expediency, not altruism, will be the guiding principle. Professional sport is expensive to run. Subscription or pay-per-view television can recover investment in a way neither ITV nor the BBC can. Rugby union will then be perceived as a television product. Once the first substantial cheque is signed, rugby will find it difficult to resist the medium's influence and may find that it has to mend its ways in order to become more television-friendly than it is at present. A new audience must understand what it sees.

What rugby league understood from its early days, rugby union must come to terms with today. The game's contentious areas must disappear. Rucks and mauls, the difference between which few understand, will have to go. What, the television executive may ask, is the point of kicking the ball so often into touch when what our audience needs is for the ball to be in and not out of play? The kicking should be stopped and lineouts done away with.

With a television audience's attention span notoriously low, the administrators may wish then to consider the number of penalties — so notoriously high — that are awarded. There were 41 in Llanelli's game with Cardiff last weekend. A figure in the mid-thirties is more usual. Although there is meant to be no "undue delay" in taking any one of these, a full minute can be allowed under the laws. This might be thought a considerable waste of time.

However, with rucks, mauls and lineouts confined to the past and the destructive presence of wing forwards committed to the dustbin in a 13-man game, penalties might come to be awarded only for obstructive and dangerous play. The transformation will be complete — and then some old codger who remembered the way things were might care then to reinvent amateur rugby union.

Bath opt to leave out Ubogu

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

THE week that marked England's first training run of the season at Marlow has also produced the demotion of their tight-head prop. Victor Ubogu has been displaced in the Bath team to play Wasps in the Courage league match tomorrow by David Hilton.

Bath do not make any bones about the reason. "We don't think he is contributing to a full game at the moment," John Hall, the team manager, said. "I think it's probably down to a lack of fitness." Yet Hilton is a loose-head prop and will be playing his first league game at tight head against Nick Popplewell, the Ireland international.

In other circumstances, John Mallett might have been promoted, but a back injury keeps him on the sidelines. Hilton has not played in the club's senior side since a cup quarter-final against Northampton seven months ago.



Ubogu: fitness questioned

Should he hold his place, then England will have to look closely at their front row arrangements for the international against South Africa next month. During the pool games of the World Cup last summer, they picked Jason Leonard at tight head against Italy, with Graham Rowntree and Brian Moore, a selection that Jack Rowell, the coach, described then as potentially England's best front row.

Wasps, meanwhile, are optimistic that Popplewell will remain available to them even if his business commitments take him back to Dublin. His situation would resemble that of Rob Andrew, now based in Newcastle and busy recruiting for Newcastle United Sports Clubs — a drive which has, most recently, embraced Garath Archer and Martin Corry, the Bristol and England A forwards who were Newcastle Gosforth players last season.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

BARTLETT, PETER
DUTNALL, CYNTHIA NORTON
nee BARTLEY
Would any one knowing the whereabouts of these two people who were cousins of the late Frances Egyth O'Hara Thompson and thought to be living in London during the early 1960s please contact White & Bowker, 19 St Peter Street, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8BU quoting reference FER/6839/6.

- CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: Fight for Sight
Scheme discharging the custodian trustee and the delegation of investment management
Reference: MD7/265454 A/1-CDL/ds11
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at Bircham & Co., Dean Farrar Street, Westminster, London SW1H 0DY or a copy can be obtained by sending a Stamped addressed envelope to Charity Commission, St Albans House, 57/60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX, quoting the reference above.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Cecchetti Society Trust
Reference: 275548 A/1 CS0LIVB)
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. Copies can be obtained from Room 2nd Floor, 20 Kings Parade, Queens Dock, Liverpool L3 4DQ (quoting the reference above).
Dated this 4th day of October 1995
Tweedie & Prideaux
1 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3BT.

JOY KEITH TRUST
The Charity Commissioners propose to make an order appointing
Gaynor M Fay
Laura M Keller
Roy Ruddick
to be trustees thereof.
Any objections or comments on these proposals may be sent in writing within one month from the date of this notice to the Charity Commissioners, 2nd Floor, 20 Kings Parade, Queens Dock, Liverpool L3 4DQ, quoting reference LL/215139/CS 0.lv 5).

Stephen Alan Lawton (last heard of in Barnsley South Yorkshire please contact Miss A. Woodrow, Messrs. Bury & Walkers, Solicitors, Telephone 01226 733833 for information relating to a Court appointment. You are hereby notified to attend at Sheffield County Court on Friday 13th October 1995 at 10.15 a.m.

PETROLEUM AND SUBMARINE PIPELINES ACT 1975
Notice of Application for a Submarine Pipeline Works Authorisation
ARCO British Limited hereby gives notice on behalf of itself and Gas Petroleum Plc, in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Schedule 4 to the Petroleum and Submarine Pipelines Act 1975 that it has made an application to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry for the grant of an authorisation for the construction and use of a system of pipelines between the Tyne and Trent platforms and the Easington and the East Anglia Gas and Liquids Evacuation System (EAGLES) pipeline.
Maps delineating the route of the proposed pipeline and providing certain further information may be inspected free of charge at the places listed in the Schedule to this notice from 10am to 4pm on each weekday from the date that this notice is published until the date mentioned in the next paragraph of this notice.
Pursuant to a direction of the Secretary of State, representations with respect to the application may be made in writing and addressed to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry at the Oil and Gas Office, Atholl House, 86-88 Guild Street, Aberdeen, AB9 1DR (marked FAO Mrs S Calvane, Manager Offshore Pipeline Authorisations) not later than Friday 3rd November 1995 and should bear the reference "GS/6068/Tyne" and state the grounds upon which the representations are made.
Dated 4 October 1995
S M Dunkley, Company Secretary
ARCO British Limited, London Square, Cross Lanes, Guildford, Surrey GU1 1UE.
SCHEDULE
ARCO British Limited, London Square, Cross Lanes, Guildford, Surrey GU1 1UE
Fisheries Office, Crown Buildings, Penrhyt Caernarfon, Gwynedd LL5 2JP
Fisheries Office, Fish Market, The Barbican, Plymouth, Devon
Fisheries Office, 46 Fore Street, Newlyn, Penzance TR18 5JR
Fisheries Office, Fish Market, Rock-a-Nore Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 3DW
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, Marsdon Road, Fish Docks, Grimsby, South Humberside DN31 3SD
Fisheries Office, 15 Union Quay, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE30 1HN
Department of Trade & Industry, Oil & Gas Office, 4th Floor, Atholl House, 86-88 Guild Street, Aberdeen AB9 1DR
Fisheries Office, Old Harbour, The Quay, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HD
Fisheries Office, 141 Cleethorpe Road, Grimsby, South Humberside
Fisheries Office, 26 London Road, Fleetwood, Lancashire FY7 6JG
Fisheries Office, Sea View, Battery Green Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk
Fisheries Office, 5 Hamilton Terrace, Milford Haven, Dyfed SA73 2AL

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
MULTIPOWER LIMITED
(IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
TO ALL CREDITORS
A meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held under the provisions of Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 at 400 Capability Green, Luton, Beds, LU1 3LU on 19 October 1995 at 2.30 pm to receive a report of the Administrative Receiver and to decide if a committee of creditors should be appointed
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.
Please note the following if you intend to vote at the meeting:
(a) A written statement of claim must be lodged with the Administrative Receiver by 12 noon on the day before the meeting at 400 Capability Green, Luton, Beds, LU1 3LU.
(b) A proxy form is enclosed and this must be completed and lodged with the Administrative Receiver before the meeting.
C K RAYMENT, JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE NO. 0010393 OF 1995
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF MOUNT CREDIT CORPORATION LIMITED
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS MOUNT BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED)
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisors of Mount Credit Corporation Limited intend to declare a third dividend to the creditors of the above company based on their individual balances as at 10 May 1993.
A letter to this effect has gone to all creditors who have provided an address to the company.
This letter requests that all creditors notify the Supervisors of details of to whom the distribution is to be sent.
Any person or body corporate believing that they have a valid claim and who has not received previous notification should contact the company at 5 Mount Street, London. W1Y 5AA.
Dated this 28th day of September 1995
Signed PW Wallace, Joint Supervisor

No.04638 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY KITCHENS PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 20 September 1995 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £3,369,791 to £451,338 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 26 September 1995.
DATED THIS 4th day of October 1995
Stanley Porter of
26 Farringdon Street
London EC4A 4AQ
0171 248 9991
Solicitors for the above named Company.

YELLOW CAB CO. BAR DINER LTD
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that I, S D Swaden, FCA of Leonard Curtis & Co. 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company by the Members and Creditors on 2nd October 1995.
Dated 2nd October 1995
S. D SWADEN, Liquidator

No 005847 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
In the matter of
SANYO GALLENKAMP PLC
And in the matter of
the Companies Act 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
That a Petition was on 21st September presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named company from £12,000,000 to £10,300,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN
that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 18th day of October 1995.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same
Dated this 5th day of October 1995
TAYLOR JOYNSON GARRETT
Solicitors for the above-named Company of Carmelite, 50 Victoria Embankment, Blackfriars, LONDON EC4Y 0DX
Ref: PBK/rLE1). Tel: 0171 583 1234

THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT ASSURANCE LIMITED
PFM ASSURANCE LIMITED
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT MANAGED PENSION FUNDS LIMITED

A Petition having been presented for their approval to the Court of Session by the Scottish Provident Institution, a mutual life office incorporated in Great Britain by Act of Parliament and having its registered office at 6 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA, for sanction of a Scheme under which the long term businesses of Scottish Provident Assurance Limited, PFM Assurance Limited and Scottish Provident Managed Pension Funds Limited are to be transferred to the Scottish Provident Institution aforementioned under Section 49 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982, the Lord Ordinary has pronounced an Interlocutor in the following terms at Edinburgh on 11th August 1995.

"The Lord Ordinary appoints the Petition to be intimated on the Walls in common form and to be advertised once in each of the Edinburgh Gazette, the Belfast Gazette, the London Gazette, The Times, The Financial Times, The Scotsman, The Herald and The Belfast Telegraph newspapers; grants Warrant for service of the Petition as craved, together with a copy of this Interlocutor, upon the parties named and designed in the schedule annexed thereto; allows them and any other party claiming an interest to lodge Answers, if so advised, within 21 days after such intimation, advertisements, and service; directs registration of the aforesaid advertisements, this Petition and a copy of this Interlocutor with the Department of Trade and Industry; dispenses with the requirements of paragraph 2 (2) (b) of Schedule 2C of the Insurance Companies Act 1982."

Any party wishing to object to the approval of the said Scheme should lodge Answers with the Deputy Principal Clerk of Session, Parliament House, Edinburgh within the period specified herein. Copies of the Petition and the Scheme and of a report on the terms of the Scheme prepared by an independent actuary will be available for inspection from the date of this notice until the date of the final hearing of the Petition at the registered offices of the Petitioner; the said Scottish Provident Assurance Limited; the said PFM Assurance Limited; and the said Scottish Provident Managed Pension Funds Limited; and also at the offices of the Scottish Provident group specified in the undernote hereto.

All of which intimation is hereby given.
Dated the 6th day of October 1995.
BIGGART BAILLIE & GIFFORD, SOLICITORS
DALMORE HOUSE, 310 ST VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW G2 5QR

UNDERNOTE:-	Scottish Provident offices where copy documents may be inspected.
BELFAST	Scottish Provident Buildings, 7 Donegall Square West, Belfast, BT1 6JL
BIRMINGHAM	Colmore Gate, 2 Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 2QD
BRISTOL	Kings House, Boad Street, Bristol, BS1 3AE
CAMBRIDGE	Scottish Provident House, 27-28 Bridge Street, Cambridge, CB2 1UJ
CROYDON	Lennig House, 2 Masons Avenue, Croydon, CR0 9XS
EDINBURGH	6 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2YA 8 Albyn Place, Edinburgh, EH2 4NG 9 Melville Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7YZ
GLASGOW	19 St Vincent Place, Glasgow, G1 2DT
KENDAL	Bridge Mills, Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 4UB,
LEEDS	St George House, Great George Street, Leeds, LS1 3DL
LONDON	3 Lombard Street, London, EC3V 9AA Walbrook House, 23 Walbrook, London, EC4N 8LD
MANCHESTER	50 Fountain Street, Manchester, M2 2AS
READING	300 King's Road, Reading, RG1 4HP
SOUTHAMPTON	19-22 Upper Banister Street, Southampton, SO15 2EF
CORK	50 South Mall, Cork
DUBLIN	53 Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin 2
GALWAY	Odeon House, Eyre Square, Galway
LIMERICK	64 O'Connell Street, Limerick

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
FRISK PRODUCTS LIMITED
Registered No: 1042120
Former Company Name: REALGREEN LIMITED
Trading Names: FRISK ART MATERIALS.
FRISK GRAPHIC ART MATERIALS
Notice is hereby given that on 2 October 1995, Alan David Lewis and Anthony William Brierley of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the above company by National Westminster Bank Plc under the powers conferred in debentures dated 8 February 1995 and 30 November 1993 containing fixed and floating charges over the assets and undertakings of the company.
Dated this 2nd day of October 1995
ALAN DAVID LEWIS and ANTHONY WILLIAM BRIERLEY, Joint Administrative Receivers

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
COLYER & SOUTHEY MANUFACTURING LIMITED
Registered No: 1366452
Former Company Names: G J (PAPER MERCHANTS) LIMITED
COMMERCIAL & LEISURE ART MATERIALS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that on 2 October 1995, Alan David Lewis and Anthony William Brierley of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the above company by National Westminster Bank Plc under the powers conferred in debentures dated 8 February 1995 and 30 November 1993 containing fixed and floating charges over the assets and undertakings of the company
Dated this 2nd day of October 1995
ALAN DAVID LEWIS and ANTHONY WILLIAM BRIERLEY, Joint Administrative Receivers

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
COMMERCIAL LEISURE & ART MATERIALS EXPORT LIMITED
Registered No: 749443
Former Company Names:
COLYER & SOUTHEY (NORTH) LIMITED.
BETA STATIONERY LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that on 2 October 1995, Alan David Lewis and Anthony William Brierley of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the above company by National Westminster Bank Plc under the powers conferred in debentures dated 8 February 1995 and 30 November 1993 containing fixed and floating charges over the assets and undertakings of the company.
Dated this 2nd day of October 1995
ALAN DAVID LEWIS and ANTHONY WILLIAM BRIERLEY, Joint Administrative Receivers

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
COYLER & SOUTHEY PROPERTIES LIMITED
REGISTERED NO 1061817
Notice is hereby given that on 2 October 1995, Alan David Lewis and Anthony William Brierley of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the above company by National Westminster Bank Plc under the powers conferred in debentures dated 8 February 1995 and 30 November 1993 containing fixed and floating charges over the assets and undertakings of the company.
Dated this 2nd day of October 1995
ALAN DAVID LEWIS and ANTHONY WILLIAM BRIERLEY, Joint Administrative Receivers

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
SPICE PHOTOS LIMITED
REGISTERED NO: 654426
Notice is hereby given that on 2 October 1995, Alan David Lewis and Anthony William Brierley of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the above company by National Westminster Bank Plc under the powers conferred in debentures dated 8 February 1995 and 30 November 1993 containing fixed and floating charges over the assets and undertakings of the company
Dated this 2nd day of October 1995
ALAN DAVID LEWIS and ANTHONY WILLIAM BRIERLEY, Joint Administrative Receivers

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
COLYER & SOUTHEY LIMITED
REGISTERED NO: 436249
Notice is hereby given that on 2 October 1995, Alan David Lewis and Anthony William Brierley of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the above company by National Westminster Bank Plc under the powers conferred in debentures dated 8 February 1995 and 30 November 1993 containing fixed and floating charges over the assets and undertakings of the company
Dated this 2nd day of October 1995
ALAN DAVID LEWIS and ANTHONY WILLIAM BRIERLEY, Joint Administrative Receivers

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1926 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified, after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
DE CHAIR, SOMERSET STRUBEN of ST. OSYTH'S PRIORY, ST. OSYTH, ESSEX, CO16 8NZ died on 5 JANUARY 1995 particulars to PAYNE HICKS BEACH Solicitors of 10 NEW SQUARE, LINCOLN'S INN, LONDON WC2A 3QG (Ref. NJW) before 8 DECEMBER 1995

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171-782 7344 OR FAX: 0171-782 7827

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.



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هكذا من الأصل

Britain conjure up lead in Maureen Connolly Trophy

Americans fail to raise their sights

BY STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE rain, sounding like a thousand drummers at work, occasionally battered the corrugated roof of the Scotstoun Leisure Centre during the Maureen Connolly Trophy yesterday. Against the United States, the Great Britain under-21 women's team made equally heavy weather of it underneath.

On the first day of the three-day tournament, they took a substantial 3-0 lead, but the advantage was established largely because of the inexperience of the visitors. The members of the American team, all studying at either school or university, were taught lessons in coping with the strain of international competition.

Lucie Ahl is a comparatively hardened professional of five year's standing, but it took her more than 2½ hours to subdue Farley Taylor. Before winning 6-4, 2-6, 9-7, the 21-year-old Devonian missed two match points at 6-5 and another in the final game.

Amanda Wainwright was appearing in the event for the fourth time but she had to save two set points in the opening tie-break against a 17-year-old novice. When serving for the match, she had to save two more threats to avoid being broken by Marissa Catlin, who went down 7-6, 6-4.

Lizzie Jelfs is the new British No 1, but she had to save two set points and was taken to a tie-break, which she won 7-3, before outplaying Kristin Sanderson. The 18-year-old American is ranked 316 places lower than her superior.

Ahl, a diminutive imp of a player, was operating under a slight handicap. In May she heard a click in her left wrist and, although she continued to compete, she could not use the damaged limb to reinforce her backhand. In a sense, the injury was a blessing in disguise.

She learned the one-handed backhand slice, "which brought a new dimension to my game", before undergoing surgery two months ago. Only last week was she able to reassure herself and the captain, Ann Jones, that she would be fit to represent her country for the second time.

Curiously, her forehand repeatedly let her down and, at 3-0 and 40-0 down in the final set, the deficiency appeared to be decisive. But Taylor was heading towards a crisis of her own and one which she admitted is a familiar cause for regret. She could feel her nerves tightening at the prospect of victory.

She yielded four successive games and, befuddled at 6-6, was preparing to serve to the wrong court before the umpire reminded her of the score. At the University of Texas, she is studying sociology and psychology. "I wish I could practice what I preach," she said.

Rachel Jensen, the assistant coach whose brothers advocate "rock and roll tennis", attempted to lift the tension. On her command, the four other team members conducted a Mexican wave at the end of a changeover. The effect would have been more dignified if they had not been in tip-up seats. The quintette finished on the floor.

So, figuratively, did Catlin. She is ranked No 15 among the under 18s in the United States and nowhere yet in the world. A senior in high school, she is the national champion on grass and red clay, but had never before been adorned in the colours of her country.

Mark Philippoussis, the emerging young Australian, reached the last eight of the Salem Open in Kuala Lumpur yesterday when he beat the No 7 seed, Byron Black, 6-7, 6-2, 6-4. Philippoussis, 18, hit 44 aces.

MARC ASPLAND



Jelfs prepares to deliver a double-handed backhand in her victory over Sanderson

Wainwright wore hers more obtrusively than even Greg Rusedski. Rather than a narrow bandana, sported temporarily by her new compatriot during the Wimbledon championships, she chose to spread the red, white and blue garment and wrap it around her head. The reason was practical.

She explained that her hair, having been cut short recently, was unruly. She had spotted the apparel in a supermarket in St Albans and would have bought another four if the stock had not run out. For that, her more introverted colleagues will be grateful.

Wainwright lost her way last year before and after she had sat her A-levels but the Wimbledon championships four months ago provided a timely inspiration. She won six qualifying matches before being knocked out by Zina Garrison Jackson, a former runner-up.

TODAY'S DRAW (Britain names first): K Warne-Holland v T Green; K Cross v S Sureephong; A Wainwright v F Taylor; L Ahl v M Catlin.

SPORTS LETTERS

Urgent need for code of ethics

From Mr Edward Grayson

Sir, The Amateur Swimming Association's failure to investigate the complaints by three senior swimmers in 1986 against its Olympic coach, Paul Hickson, raises issues beyond your constructive leading article ("Code for Coaches", September 28).

It recommended a "more widely disseminated" booklet from the National Coaching Foundation and NSPCC "for parents, pupils and coaches alike". All sporting governing bodies now need a code of ethics to remind the innumerable volunteer administrators and professional employees, at all levels, of acceptable standards of behaviour.

Sport is now widely subjected to commercial pressures, and its true values linked to health, eduction and fun, even within a competitive framework, become blurred and frequently forgotten.

The eminent athletics coach, Frank Dick, sounded a warning note at the British Association for Sport and Medicine conference in Bristol last year when he said that a system of ethics for sport was long overdue, and the British Olympic Association was the appropriate body to introduce it.

Last week's tragic disclosures in the Hickson case reaffirmed and re-emphasised the need for it now.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
EDWARD GRAYSON,
President,
British Association
of Sport and the Law,
9-12 Bell Yard, WC2.

From Mr Nigel Hook

Sir, The relationship between coach and athlete is crucial to the development of sport at all levels. The Prime Minister's excellent policy strategy, "Sport — Raising the Game", calls for closer co-operation between schools, colleges, universities and voluntary clubs in an effort to improve and sustain Britain's position on the world stage.

On behalf of its membership, the Central Council of Physical Recreation has secured the co-operation of the Home Office and the Department of Health to provide the access to criminal records necessary to screen administrators, volunteers and coaches who assist in the running of the 150,000 sports clubs in Britain.

While such a move is to be proposed in a Government White Paper (due this autumn), it will only serve as a "long-stop" measure for those individuals with track records related to sexual harassment and other matters.

Any future policies related to those issues will require the co-operation and support of all the agencies concerned to protect the welfare of sports enthusiasts, which will include administrators, teachers, parents and club officials.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL HOOK,
Head of Technical Services,
The Central Council
of Physical Recreation,
Francis House,
Francis Street, SW1.

Sport must take stance

From the Chairman, Institute of Professional Sport

Sir, The Bosman football transfer case (reports, September 21) highlights the problem faced by professional sports bodies which are interested not only in protecting the welfare of paid players but also in ensuring the integrity of sport as a whole.

That is why the Institute of Professional Sport — with the active assistance of the Central Council of Physical Recreation — is seeking measures within the Maastricht Treaty, including a separate article for sport along the lines of article 128 for culture. The treaty is subject to review in 1996.

An article for sport would limit the action of the European Union and secure the right of sport to be taken into account when other European Union policies and regulations are being determined.

For this to happen there must be consultation with national governing bodies of sport and players' associations at national and European level.

Yours faithfully,
GARTH CROOKS,
Chairman,
The Institute of
Professional Sport,
Francis House,
Francis Street, SW1.

Model of style

From Mr I. G. Betteley

Sir, While watching *Match of the Day* last Saturday, I could not help comparing the football with that played by Rosenborg in their match with Blackburn Rovers earlier in the week. Only Middlesbrough came anywhere near the Norwegian side's standard of play.

It would do English football a power of good if the FA sent every league club a video of the game and suggested they copy Rosenborg's style. When they had the ball, all their players considered themselves attackers, supporting one another and running into space.

When they lost possession, all the players became defenders, getting behind the ball as quickly as possible. They covered one another at the back (compare many English defences strung in a line across the pitch), had two players wide up front, and fed them consistently with accurate passes.

Most of these things are basic to football and should be in any good coaching manual. The individual ball control does take longer to teach but, given time and commitment, is possible. Whether the FA agrees that this was better than the long-ball game preferred by some of our coaches is a matter of conjecture, but one hopes they do.

Yours sincerely,
I. G. BETTELEY,
Division of Statistics and O.R.,
Coventry University,
Coventry,
Warwickshire.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211. They must include a daytime telephone number.

Second city first

From Mr Glenn Richards

Sir, I heartily agree with Mark Skinner's annoyance (Sports Letters, September 28) at media bias towards London and Wembley for the new national stadium. But surely his choice of Manchester is local bias. Based on his own criteria, the choice must be Birmingham.

With the exception of Newcastle, Middlesbrough and Southampton, every Premiership club is within 120 miles by road, not to mention the majority of the Endsleigh League first division. The same applies to rugby clubs.

The chosen site, next door to the NEC (another triumph over London bias), boasts the crossroads of the motorway network, a mainline railway station and an international airport. In common with Manchester, an innovative design for a covered stadium is ready for implementation.

Yours faithfully,
GLENN RICHARDS,
Flat 1, 10 Lansdowne Crescent,
Worcester.

FOR THE RECORD

CYCLING

TUNJA: World championships: Women: Time-trial (26 kilometres, Tuta and Tunja): 1, J Longo (Fr) 44min 27sec; 2, C Hughes (Can) at 1min 11sec; 3, K Watt (Aus) at 1.25; 4, V Polkhanova (Russ) at 2:35; 5, K Kurreck (US) at 2:50; 6, J Golay (US) at 3:15; 7, C Marsal (Fr) at 3.25; 8, Z Zabirova (Russ) at 3:26; 9, M Corrador (Col) at 4.42; 10, T Viksiedi-Nyman (Fin) at 5.15; 13, Y McGregor (GB) at 5:39.

RUGBY UNION

TIPP-EX COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Norfolk 18 Essex 26; Suffolk 5 Cambs 10.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Surrey 36 Sussex 26.
HEINEKEN LEAGUE: First division: Bridgend 32 Cardiff 19.
CLUB MATCHES: Harlequins 88 Brunel University 17; Rosslyn Park 19 Oxford University 13; West Hartlepool 53 Durham City 12.

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS: National League: Atlanta 7 Colorado 4 (Atlanta lead best-of-five series 2-0); Cincinnati 5 Los Angeles 4 (Cincinnati lead 2-0). American League: Cleveland 4 Boston 0 (Cleveland lead 2-0); New York 7 Seattle 5 (New York lead 2-0).

BASKETBALL

TURKEY: Korac Cup: Second round, second leg: Tofas Spor Kulubu 97 London Towers 70 (Tofas Spor Kulubu win 171-153 on agg).

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results

COCA-COLA CUP: Second round, second leg: Blackburn Rovers 2 Swindon 0 (Blackburn win 5-2 on agg); Chelsea 0 Stoke 1 (Stoke win 1-0 on agg); Chester 1 Tottenham Hotspur 3 (Tottenham win 7-1 on agg); Derby County 1 Shrewsbury 1 (Derby win 4-2 on agg); Everton 2 Millwall 4 (aet; 2-2 after 90 min, Millwall win 4-2 on agg); Hull 0 Coventry 1 (Coventry win 3-0 on agg); Manchester City 4 Wycombe 0 (Manchester City win 4-0 on agg); Newcastle United 3 Bristol City 1 (Newcastle win 8-1 on agg); Nottingham Forest 2 Bradford 2 (Bradford win 5-4 on agg); Oldham 1 Tranmere 3 (Tranmere win 4-1 on agg); Sheffield Wednesday 5 Crewe 2 (Sheffield Wednesday win 7-4 on agg); Southampton 2 Cardiff 1 (Southampton win 5-1 on agg); Sunderland 0 Liverpool 1 (Liverpool win 3-0 on agg); Torquay 2 Norwich 3 (Norwich win 9-3 on agg); West Ham United 3 Bristol Rovers 0 (West Ham win 4-0 on agg).
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Falkirk 0 Celtic 1; Hearts 1 Aberdeen 2; Partick 1 Kilmarnock 1, Raith 3 Hibernian 0.
SCOTTISH LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP: Semi-finals: Dunfermline 0 Dundee United 4, Stirling 1 Stenhousemuir 2.
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley 1 Blyth Spartans 2; Witton 2 Chorley 1. First division: Altrincham 3 Curzon Ashton 2.
ICIS LEAGUE: Third division: Lewes 2 Camberley 3.
LEAGUE OF WALES: League Cup: Group one: Caernarfon 2 Cemaes Bay 0. Group three: Llansantffraid 0 Aberystwyth 1. Group four: Llanelli 1 Barry 1. Group five: Ton Pentre 1 Cwmbran 2.
2w FAI NATIONAL LEAGUE: Cup: Semi-final: Bray 0 Shelbourne 2.
FA CARLSBERG VASE: Second round qualifying replay: Keynsham 4 Porthleven 2.
ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: League Cup: First round: Romford 3 Ford United 1.
GERMAN CUP: Third round: Unterhaching 2 Karlsruhe SC 3; SC Freiburg 0 Borussia Dortmund 1; Fortuna Düsseldorf 3 Chemnitz 1, Rot-Weiss Essen 4 Bayer Leverkusen 4 (aet, 4-4 at 90 min, Bayer win 4-1 on pens).
PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Sporting Lisbon 2 Benfica 0.
SPANISH LEAGUE: Barcelona 4 Oviedo 1, Valencia 4 Real Madrid 3, Compostela 1 Rayo Vallecano 0; Salamanca 0 Zaragoza 1, Albacete 4 Valladolid 2; Real Sociedad 2 Deportivo de La Coruña 1; Racing de Santander 2 Celta 1, Sporting de Gijon 3 Sevilla 1.
FRENCH LEAGUE: Nantes 2 Monaco 2; Nice 0 Metz 1; Paris Saint-Germain 1, Rennes 1; Martigues 1 Auxerre 2; Guingamp 0 Lens 1, Bordeaux 1 Lyon 1, Bastia 1 Le Havre 0; Saint-Etienne 0 Montpellier 2, Guingamp 2 Cannes 0; Lille 2 Strasbourg 0.
DUTCH LEAGUE: Volendam 0 Willem II Tilburg 0, De Graafschap Doetinchem 0 Twente Enschede 3, NEC Nijmegen 1 Heerenveen 3; NAC Breda 0 Sparta Rotterdam 0; PKC Waalwijk 1 Utrecht 0; Ajax Amsterdam 3 Vitesse Arnhem 0, Fortuna Sittard 2 Go Ahead Eagles Deventer 2; Roda JC Kerkrade 1 PSV Eindhoven 1.

GOLF

WREXHAM: Women's home International championship: England 8 Scotland 3 Foursomes result: England 3 Scotland 0. Singles (England names first): J Hall halved with A Rose; L Walton halved with H Monaghan; J Oliver bt L Nicholson 4 and 3; E Fields bt L Roxburgh 3 and 2; K Stupples lost to S McMaster two holes; S Lambert lost to J Ford 2 and 1. Singles result: England 3 Scotland 3; Ireland 4½ Wales 4½ (Ireland names first): Foursomes result: Ireland 2 Wales 1. Singles: Power lost to Dermott 2 and 1; Kavanagh lost Jones 4 and 3; A Cotley halved with Thomas; D McCarthy lost to L Davis one hole; Cassidy beat Stark 5 and 3; Higgins bt Richards 4 and 3. Singles result: Ireland 2½ Wales 3½. Scotland v Ireland (Scotland names first): Foursomes: A Rose and L Nicholson lost to E Higgins and A O'Sullivan 6 and 5; C Agnew and L Roxburgh lost to Y Cassidy and S Fanagan one hole; J Ford and S McMaster halved with ER Power and H Kavanagh. Foursomes result: Scotland v Ireland 2½ Wales v England (Wales names first): Foursomes: L Dermott and B Jones lost to J Hall and L Walton 2 and 1; L Davis and E Pilgrim beat E Duggleby and E Fields 4 and 3; V Thomas and D Richards lost to E Ratcliffe and K Stupples 7 and 6. Foursomes result: Wales 1 England 2.
SCHOOLS: Golf Foundation team championships: Regional qualifying round (at Leicestershire Golf Club): 231 Oakham School: T Sweet 75, M Walker 76, T Duck 80. 239: Rawlins Community College Quorn: J Garner 81, J Leacy 75, S Brown 83. Best individual score: D Boyes, 75 (John Cleveland College, Hinckley).

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: First division: Dumfries 11 Paisley 3, Guildford 7 Medway 7.

SNOOKER

BANGKOK: Tahiland Classic: Quarter-finals: J Parrott (Eng) by J Higgins (Scot) 5-3, N Bond (Eng) bt J Swail (N Ire).

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Hull 51 Wolverhampton 45 Poole 48, Eastbourne 48.

TENNIS

ZURICH: Women's tournament: First round: Second round: J Novotna (Cz) bt M Oremans (Holl) 6-7, 6-3, 7-5.
TOULOUSE: Men's tournament: Second round: J Courier (US) bt M Damm (Cz) 6-3, 6-7, 6-4; F De Wulf (Bel) bt J Bjorkman (Swe) 7-6, 4-6, 6-3; M Rosser (Switz) bt R Reneberg (US) 6-7, 6-1, 6-4; J Palmer (US) bt F Santoro (Fr) 6-7, 7-5, 7-6; D Vacek (Cz) bt J Van Herck (Bel) 6-3, 7-6; K Kucera (Slovakia) bt J Yzaga (Peru) 6-3, 6-4; C Pioline (Fr) bt N Escudé (Fr) 6-3, 6-3.
KUALA LUMPUR: Men's tournament: Second round: R Krajcok (Holl) bt S Lareau (Can) 7-6, 6-4; P Haarhuis (Holl) bt K Carlsen (Den) 7-6, 7-6; C Casaini (It) bt A Olhovskiy (Russ) 6-4, ret; R Furlan (It) bt G Pozzi (It) 6-2, 6-1; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt B Black (Zim) 6-7, 6-2, 6-4; P McEnroe (US) bt L Rohlmann (Ger) 6-4, 6-2.
NOTTINGHAM: LTA autumn satellite tournament (GB unless stated): Men: First round: I Heuberger (Switz) bt M Wakefield (SA) 6-2, 6-7, 6-1; J Unterberger (Austria) bt W Herbert 6-3, 6-0; P Hand bt S Manta (Switz) 7-6, 6-2; G Mandl (Austria) bt N Jones 6-4, 6-4; C Beecher bt I Bates 6-2, 6-2; N Baglin bt M Wyeth 6-3, 7-6; A Rueb (US) bt C Singer (US) 7-6, 6-2; S Benderman (Ger) bt J Link (Ger) 6-2, 6-1; J Delgado bt A Parmer 6-2, 6-2; G Saffery bt A Ostenreith 2-6, 6-3, 6-4. Second round: R Koenig (SA) bt I Heuberger (Switz) 6-3, 6-1; S Hammel (Holl) bt S Cowan 7-5, 7-5; P Kuhn (SA) bt J Unterberger (Austria) 7-5, 6-7, 7-6; E Heussner (Fr) bt T Hand 7-6, 4-6, 6-4; G Mandl (Austria) bt A Rueb (US) 6-0, 6-2; P Hand bt N Baglin 6-7, 7-6, 6-4; J Delgado bt S Benderman (Ger) 6-4, 6-3; C Beecher bt G Saffery 6-3, 6-0. Women: Second round: A Torgolf bt J Callen (US) 6-4, 6-3; S Olsen (Den) bt L Woodroffe 6-7, 6-4, 6-4; K Piaszek (Den) bt J Dawson 6-3, 6-3; K Kamer (Ger) bt A Lundevall (Swe) 6-7, 7-5, 6-1; O Barabanschikova (Belo) bt J Abe (Ger) 6-4, 6-4; C Taylor bt M Wellbrandt (Swe) 6-4, 6-1; S Finer (Swe) bt S Tse 6-0, 6-3; S Smith bt A Hopmans (Holl) 6-4, 6-3.
GLASGOW: Maureen Connolly Trophy: Great Britain Under-21 v United States Under-21: Singles (Great Britain names first): L Ahl bt F Taylor 6-4, 2-6, 9-7.

Give your kids a kick in the right direction.



Tomorrow, 1015 gives your kids the chance to win one of ten pairs of Reebok Andy Cole football boots. The first name drawn can win Andy Cole's kit!

Also, 1015 reviews Hollyoaks, the new teen soap opera that's bringing a touch of 'Beverley Hills' glamour to the small screen.

1015 magazine – only in The Times.

THE TIMES
YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT IT

1015

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

It is amazing how disappointing ragged trump holdings can be. This is a hard luck story recounted to me by Graham Kirby. He and John Armstrong, his partner, have been ever-present in the Great Britain team for the past ten years.

Dealer South — **Game all** — **IMP's**

	♠43 ♥AQ1065 ♦AQ108 ♣54	
♠K10876 ♥— ♦43 ♣KQ9762	N W E S	♠QJ952 ♥KJ92 ♦652 ♣3
	♠A ♥8743 ♦KJ97 ♣AJ108	

S	W	N	E
1♥	2♣	4♥	Double
All Pass			

Four Hearts doubled, by South — *Lead: King of clubs*

Kirby was West. What South was doing opening One Heart I do not know. It is taking "suit below the singleton" lone of the rules of thumb for what to open on a 4-4-4-1) to ridiculous extremes. However, it was certainly effective on this hand. East's double of Four Hearts looks dubious, but he must have felt pleased when he saw the dummy — all his heart honours were well placed.

Declarer won the first trick with the ace of clubs, played a heart to the ace and cashed the ace of spades. He crossed to dummy with a diamond and ruffed a spade. He then played off three more rounds of diamonds, reducing dummy to Q1065 of hearts and a club, and East to QJ9 of spades and KJ9 of hearts: East still had to play on the last diamond. If he ruffed, he either had to give up a trump trick or play a spade, enabling South to ruff and get rid of dummy's last club. If East discarded a spade, declarer simply plays a heart, with the same effect. Four hearts just lost three tricks. Not a good result, with Four Spades only one off for East-West.

☐ The world championships start in Peking on Sunday. Great Britain has a team in the women's event, the Venice Cup. *The Times* will be reporting daily in this column.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

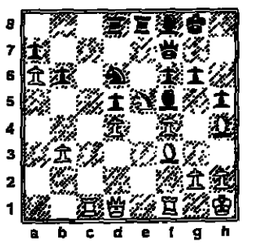
BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kasparov's sacrifice

A consensus is emerging that the fourteenth game of the world championship match was the best so far. It was a genuine battle, in which both sides had chances, rather than a display of prepared analysis, or a one-sided victory, as had been the case with some of the earlier wins. The critical position occurred after Kasparov's sacrifice of a knight on move 27. The question must be, could Anand capture the piece?

White: Garry Kasparov
Black: Viswanathan Anand
Intel world championship.
Fourteenth game, 1995

Position after White's 27th move



The critical variation must be the capture of the piece, for example

27		fxe5
28	fxe5	Ne4
29	Bxd8	Rxd8
30	g4	

(Kasparov also mentioned that 30 Rc6 was possible)

30	..	hxg4
31	Bxg4	Bxg4
32	Qxg4	Nf2+
33	Rxf2	Qxf2
34	Qxg6	Qf3+

Kasparov evaluated this position as follows: "Black will be a piece up for two pawns in the ending, but White is not without counter-chances due to the strong pawn on a6."

Kasparov leads in the match 8½-5½. The champion needs a further 1½ points to ensure retention of his title and a further two points to ensure overall match victory. The prize fund is $1.5 million (about £1 million).

Times world championship book

A full account of the match will appear in a *Times* book by Raymond Keene, *World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand* (Batsford £9.99), which will be published two days after the result is known. Credit card orders on 01376 327901.

Chess for charity

On the evening of Saturday, October 14, I shall be giving a chess simultaneous display against all-comers in aid of the Westminster Society for mentally handicapped children and adults. To reserve a place, call the organiser for Westminster Mencap, Wilfred Rodwell on 0181-202 7821.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Saturday in Sport and in Weekend on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SERTAO
a. Desert
b. Accelerando for castanets
c. A dry Madeira

TACKIE
a. Naff
b. A plimsoll
c. Sun-dried raw venison

TURDION
a. The female thrush
b. An outdoor lavatory
c. A bouncy dance

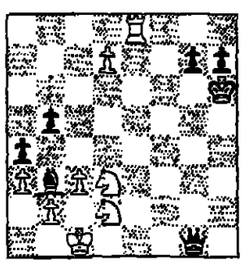
WHIO
a. A foolish, ranting journalist
b. Blueish green
c. A duck

Answers on page 44

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Short — Kasparov, *The Times* world championship, tenth game, 1993. It looks as if White has a simple win here with 1. Ne1 and the d-pawn queens. However, Kasparov had prepared a clever reply to this move. What did he have in mind?



Solution on page 44

Hell-raiser creates new image for Lewis clash

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT, IN ATLANTIC CITY

THERE was something familiar about the white heavyweight in the gym at Trump Plaza preparing to meet Lennox Lewis here on Saturday. You did not know it was Tommy "The Duke" Morrison until somebody told you. He did not look like Tommy "The Duke". Morrison was an all-American blond kid. This man had short dark hair, a down-turned Mexican-type moustache and a goatee beard.

He did not look like the Tommy Morrison who had taken the part of Tommy Gunn in *Rocky VI*: he looked more like one of the bandits in *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*. He certainly needed a badge to say who he was.

The facial changes were for this contest, the last touches in the calculated personality rearrangement of the hell-raiser from Kansas City. The Oklahoman had realised that he if wanted to stay in top-level boxing he would have to change his habit of drinking with the boys, chasing girls and staying out all night.

Training in military establishments just before a big contest had served him well until he had been knocked out in one round by Michael Bentt two years ago and he realised that he needed to reassess his lifestyle.

"I lived a lie before," Morrison said. "I wasn't being myself. This is the real me. I was playing a part. I was stuck in the Tommy Gunn mould. You could say I was playing around a bit, drinking with my buddies, sleeping with girls and staying out till 5am. I wasn't discreet. It took me a lot to learn the public eye was on me. I didn't know how to make the best decisions."

But now, thanks to help from his girlfriend, Dawn Freeman, he drinks less, stays away from distracting company in Kansas City and prefers to live on his ranch in Jay with his two sons, two cougars, a leopard, a monkey, deer, ducks and a dog — and read books.

"I did enough in two years to last any man ten years," Morrison said. "I was a professional partyer one time, but these days it does not take that much to have fun. Other things are more important. You have to grow up some time. In this sport you grow up faster.

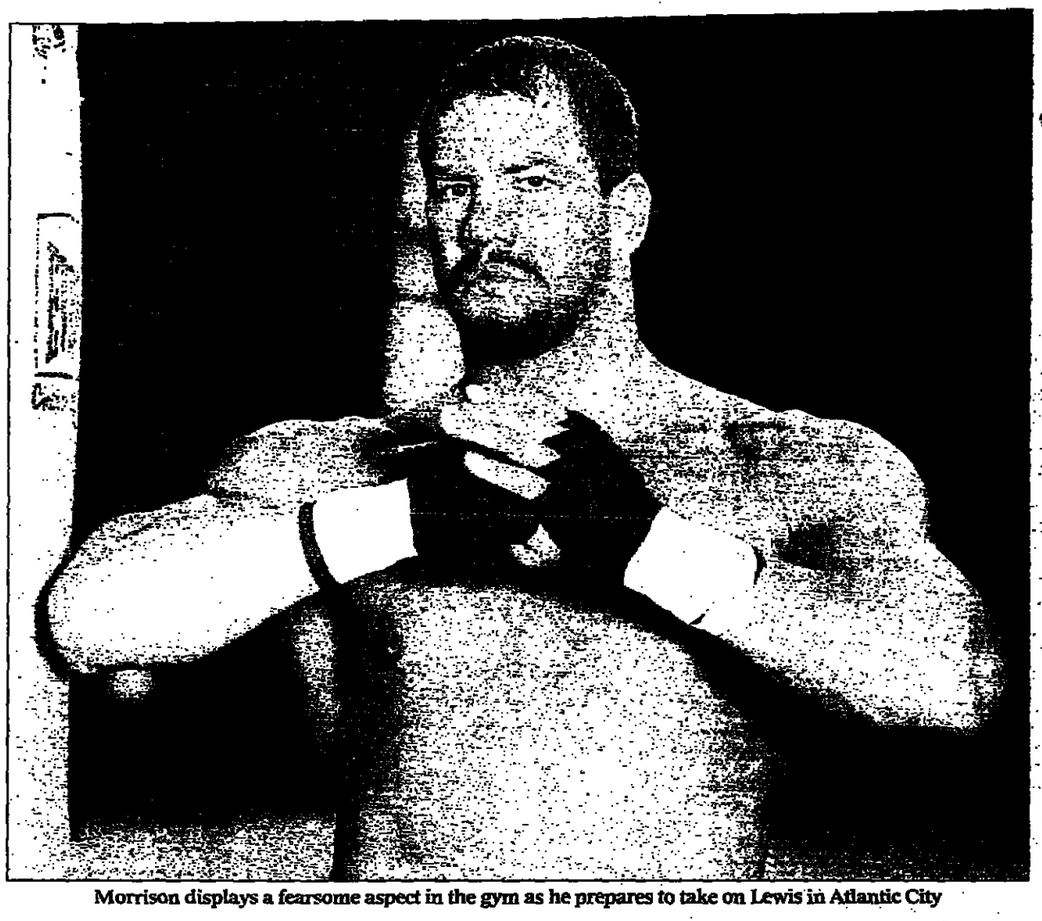
"Dawn was the best thing that happened to me. We've been together for eight years. She encouraged me to stay at home and separate myself from the bad environment in Kansas City. I hung around bars and got into a rut. I drank bottles and bottles of beer. I'm a big guy and I can put away a lot of liquor. Now I have stopped that."

Morrison added: "After Michael Bentt I kinda beat myself up. I'm a very guilt-prone athlete. I was saddened by what had happened. I was hurt, but it was all my fault. It was a tough situation coming back to the gym. I was out for three or four months before I went back. It's very humbling to go from the top to the bottom so fast. When you are doing well everybody is there to pat you on the back, but when you are not, everybody is running to hide under the shade tree."

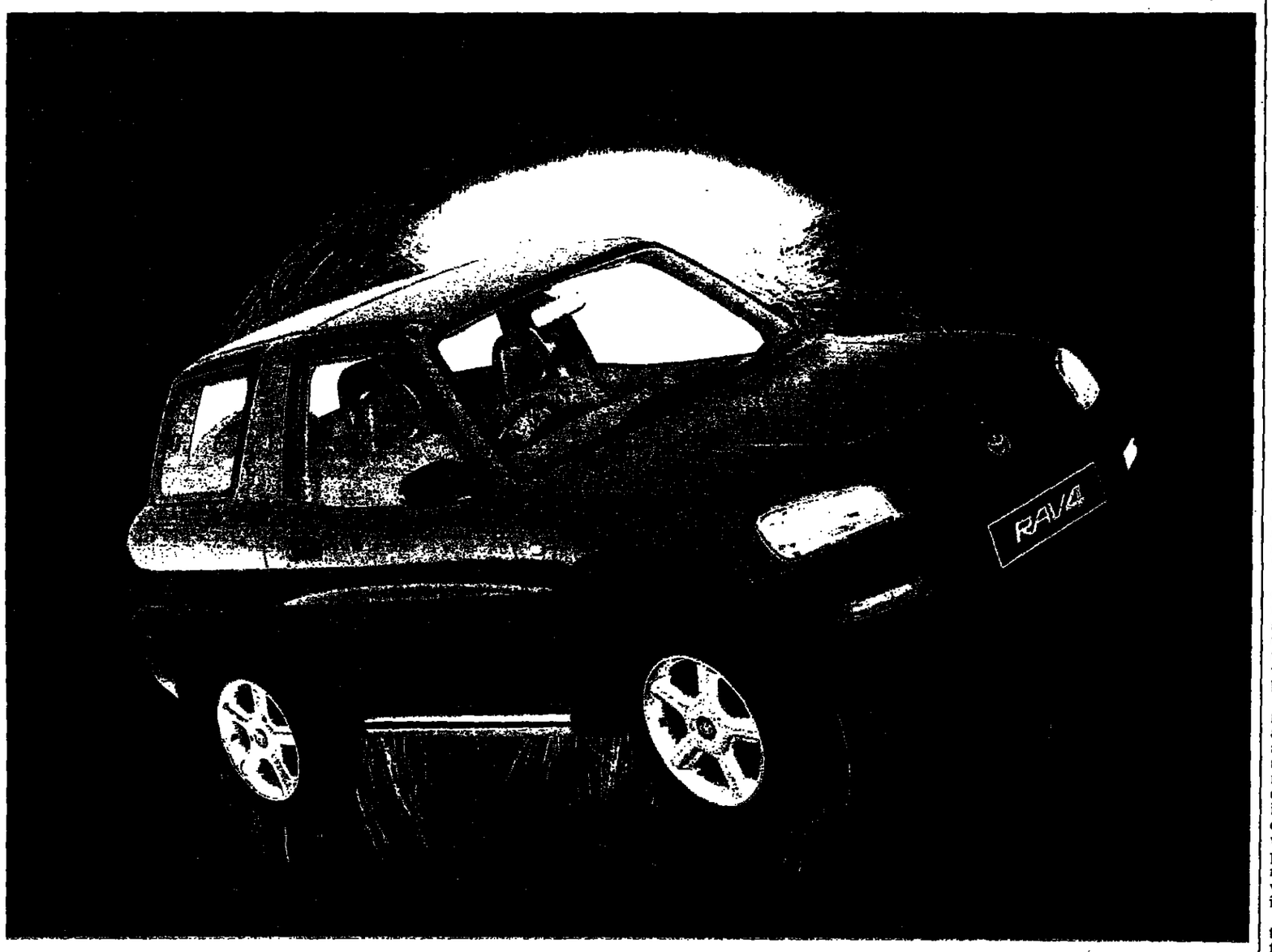
Despite his record of 48 contests, which includes a win over George Foreman for the World Boxing Organistion title, Morrison still feels inferior to top contenders. He puts this down to a lack of good amateur experience. He had 242 contests as a schoolboy, but only three months as a senior amateur before turning professional in 1988. In high school he played football and took part in tough-men contests before going straight into serious boxing. "I'm still playing catch up with these guys on experience level," Morrison said.

It is not clear if his new image will have any effect on his boxing when he meets Lewis.

Morrison has had eight bouts since losing to Bentt and won all of them, six inside the distance. In his last contest he knocked out Razor Ruddock in six rounds. He looked very impressive in the gym yesterday against a Lewis box-alike and had no trouble getting through to the chin with both hands. We should find out more on Saturday at the Convention Center when he faces the real thing.



Morrison displays a fearsome aspect in the gym as he prepares to take on Lewis in Atlantic City



LET YOUR HAIR DOWN.

(WHILE YOU'VE STILL GOT SOME)

RAV4

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*Price correct at time of going to press and includes VAT but excludes metallic paint, number plates, road fund licence and a delivery charge of £445 (incl.VAT) This excludes Northern Ireland. RAV4 GS illustrated includes optional accessories available at extra cost. See dealer for colour availability. †The Toyota Information Service is operated on behalf of Toyota (GB) Limited. ‡Survey based on a representative sample of over 10,400 UK Drivers.

Yorkshire award captaincy to Byas

BY SIMON WILDE

IN OPTING for David Byas, a senior professional, ahead of Michael Bevan, the thrusting young Australian, as their next captain, Yorkshire yesterday fought shy of another break with tradition, but new ground may nevertheless be broken shortly. A club desperate for success also announced the creation of the post of manager-coach and an international search to fill it has begun, with the possible consequence that a rasping foreign accent may yet be barking out the orders at Headingley next season.

When Martyn Moxon unexpectedly resigned as captain last week, he made an eloquent call for fresh leadership that could turn a promising team into one that could win things again.

Chris Hassell, the club's chief executive, reiterated that message yesterday when he said the manager-coach was urgently required to motivate the team. "That is the area where we have been lacking," he said.

Byas, who led the side for much of the 1995 season in the absence of the injured Moxon and was Yorkshire's leading run-scorer in first-class matches, can hardly be described as a fresh face. He is 32 and has played for the county since 1986, and the wish to introduce a powerful presence off the field may be a realistic indicator as to the weight Byas can hope to carry in his new role.

Also, judging by the time taken to reach the decision, the choice of captain was not unanimous; Hassell described the meeting as providing "very fruitful debate". Certainly, Bevan's cause was not helped by the possibility that he might be called away next August to tour Sri Lanka with Australia.

Bevan, 25, who will act as vice-captain, has been the most successful of Yorkshire's overseas signings since the club attempted, in 1991, to halt a slide in revenue and results by ending a century-old practice of not signing players from outside its boundaries.

The last person to hold the post of Yorkshire manager was Steve Oldham, briefly, in 1989; before him Raymond Illingworth more than a decade ago. Oldham's position as director of coaching was scrapped yesterday but he retains a place on the coaching staff.

Meaningful trials seen as way to pull crowds

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH athletics owned up yesterday to the mistakes that have contributed to considerable financial losses over the past 12 months. How the headwind will be turned into a tailwind is not entirely clear, but better relationships with athletes, cheaper seats for the big meetings to encourage the lost spectators to return, and more exciting Olympic trials might be a start.

The sport in Great Britain lost some £500,000 during a year in which the British Athletic Federation (BAF) fell out with Colin Jackson and Linford Christie and attendances dropped, although their absence from important domestic fixtures was not the sole cause of poor gate figures.

Over-pricing and inadequate marketing were significant, too. Peter Radford, the executive chairman of the BAF, said yesterday that "a more co-ordinated promotion drive and greater flexibility on ticketing policies" was needed.

Radford suggested that, with so many meetings in Europe, and so much television coverage, the public was being overfed. "It's a bit samey," he said. "After a while, no one cares who wins. It's the same races and the same cast." Cheaper family group tickets can be expected in Britain next season.

The dispute between the federation, Christie and Jackson should not happen again, according to Radford. "I think we will see better relationships in the coming year," he said.

He added that the signing of contracts with athletes last year was carried out too late and the mistake would not be repeated. He was pleased that, in its introductory season, a 70 per cent success rate had been achieved in agreeing contracts with athletes.

"In 1995, our intention of providing services for athletes and being more athlete-friendly did not always work well," Radford said. However, the new athlete services programme allowed, he added, 130 of them competition which otherwise they would not have had. "We gave 120 grants for preparation, so we are helping numbers, not just one or two," Radford said.

He added that, in 1995, the BAF had not made clear its selection policies. Next month, it announces its Olympic selection criteria and a return to the first-two-past-the-post trial system is expected.

Answers from page 43

SERTAO
(a) The name of an arid, barren region, characterised by caatinga (white natural vegetation, ie, in Brazil, a forest consisting of thorny shrubs and stunted trees) in the interior of Pernambuco and neighbouring states in NE Brazil; also applied to other similar areas in Brazil.

TACKIE
(b) South African slang for a rubber-soled canvas shoe, a plimsoll or sand-shoe. Origin uncertain, perhaps related to *tacky*, but apparently not Afrikaans. "Hohneyr was a camper of the first water. He wore an ancient canvas hat, a khaki shirt and shorts, and discoloured sandshoes known as tackies."

TURDION
(c) A restrained form of the gay galliard, without such acrobatic leaps, from the French *tourdion*. "The Danse basse was very grave. It was performed to the accompaniment of psalms. It consisted of three parts — 1, the Danse basse proper; 2, the Retour; and 3, the Turdion."

WHIO
(c) The blue duck, *Hymenolaimus malacorhynchos*, native to New Zealand, the Maori name. "Whio, the blue duck, is found abudantly in the mountain streams of the south part of the North Island. It takes its name from its cry."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
After 1, Ne1, Black counters with 1. . . . Qg4! threatening mate on d1. After 2, Nxb3 Qxd7! Black is doing very well.

هكذا من الاصل

Hall tipped for top Jockey Club post

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

A SOLICITOR who became a member of the Jockey Club only five years ago is expected to be given charge of one of the most sensitive jobs in racing next summer, when he becomes chairman of the disciplinary committee at Portman Square.

Christopher Hall, 59, is being tipped to succeed Anthony Mildmay-White when he steps down in July after a 3½-year term of office which has been marked by wide ranging and necessary reform.

The appointment of Hall, a point-to-point enthusiast who lives near Tunbridge Wells in Kent, would be a lightning promotion within the Jockey Club. However, his legal background is considered invaluable in dealing with the policing and regulation of racing at a time when other sports' governing bodies are facing increasing challenges to their powers in the courts.

After the unprecedented era of reform ushered in by Mildmay-White, his successor will also have the job of fine tuning some of the changes — such as referrals of jockeys to Portman Square — which have not worked out exactly as originally planned.

Despite a continuing refusal to open up disciplinary hearings — where a trainer or jockey can lose his or her livelihood behind closed doors — Mildmay-White has provided a breath of fresh air since succeeding Sir Piers Bengough in January 1993.

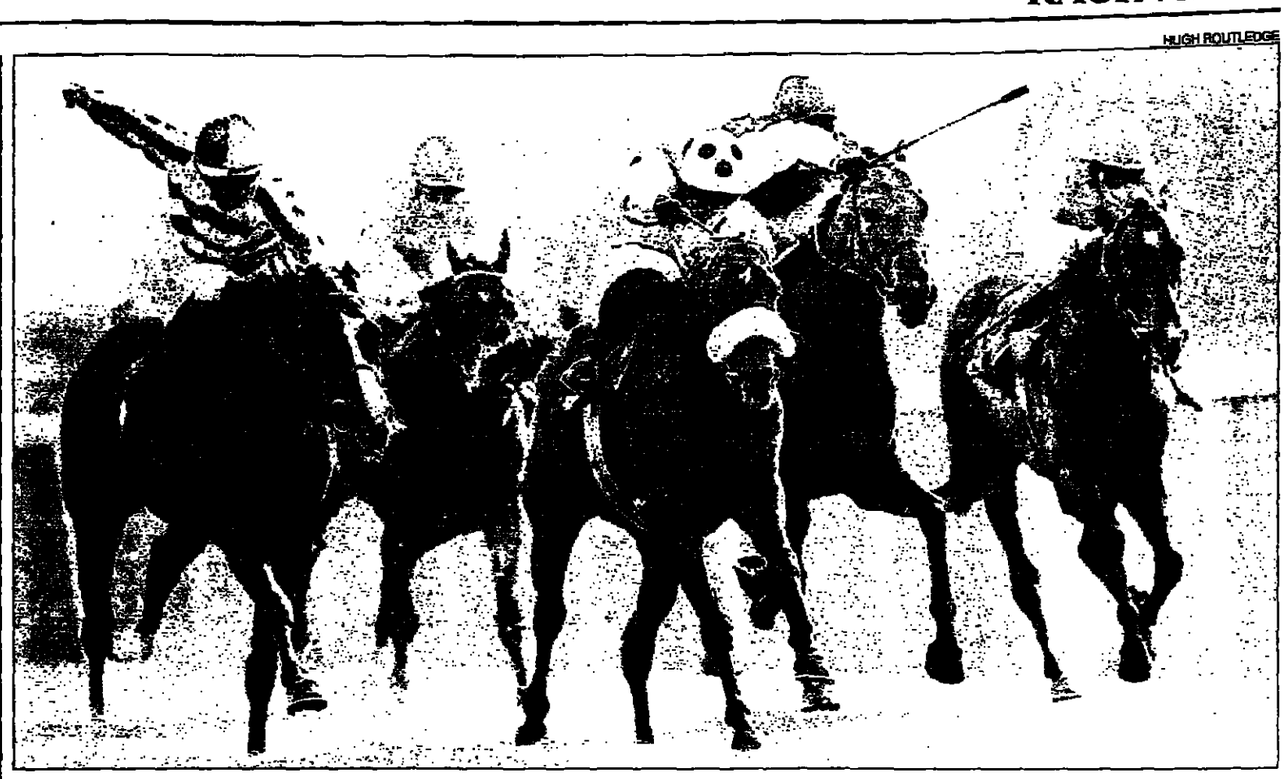
Apart from overseeing fundamental changes to rules concerning use of the whip, the penalty structure, and disqualification of horses, he has gone out of his way to improve the disciplinary system. Seminars have been staged for jockeys, meetings held with trainers, and better training instituted for stewards' secretaries. Stewards' inquiries are also being streamlined after delays hit betting turnover.

During his term of office, Mildmay-White has explained why changes, often causing controversy, were being introduced. His sympathetic yet authoritative style has marked him down as a future senior steward in the eyes of leading members of the Jockey Club.

On a gloomier note, the prospect of control of the Tote being transferred from the Home Office to racing appears to be fading further into the distance. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, announced on Febuary 28 that his department would publish "in the next six months" a consultation paper on the possible handover.

That deadline passed without any sign of the paper being produced and, with a further five weeks having elapsed, the Home Office is being even more evasive as to if, and when, the consultation document will be published. "Officials are still working on it but I don't have a timescale for publication," a Home Office spokesman said.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Hi Nod, noseband, holds on from Western Fame, left, to win the Allied Dunbar Rated Handicap at York yesterday. The five-year-old looked in trouble as Western Fame, the 6-5 favourite, challenged inside the final furlong but showed the greater resolution for a half-length success.

Hi Nod, winning the eleventh race of his career, will now be retired for the season and spend his winter holidays at the Norton Grove Stud, the home of stallion Timeless Times. "I'd like to think Hi Nod will go there as a stallion eventually. He's the ideal type of horse — tough, genuine and consistent," his trainer, Maurice Camacho, said.

Alan Daly, the apprentice jockey, was given the perfect 21st birthday present when winning on board the Simon Dow-trained Ayunli in the International Factors Apprentice Handicap. "It's a dream come true riding a winner on my 21st birthday," Daly said, after gaining his sixteenth victory of the season.

Daly's apprentice colleague, Stephen Drowne, was fortunate to escape serious injury in the Sancton Maiden Stakes after taking a heavy fall from Governors Dream, who became unbalanced after hitting the rail. Both jockey and horse walked away unscathed, with the race going to the 5-4 favourite, Music Gold.

Meaningful trials seen as way to pull crowds

ASCOT

THUNDERER

2.00 Minnesota Viking
2.30 Northern Judge
3.05 GOALWAH (nap)
3.40 Rhumba Dancer
4.15 Star Player
4.45 Beauchamp Jazz
5.15 Sharp Falcon

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Cornish Snow. 3.05 GOALWAH (nap). 5.15 Bit On The Side.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M STR, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.00 BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE CHALLENGE SERIES FINAL HANDICAP
(Amateurs: £4,299: 1m 4f) (12 runners)

101	(7)	0143-06	GOLDEN ARROW 6J (D,S) (P Mellon) L Batting 4-12-0	A Balding	89
102	(11)	4-810	CHIEF BEE 21 (BF,F) (Mrs M Burrell) J Dunlop 4-11-10	J Dunlop	92
103	(4)	104150	TRADE WIND 10 (D,F,S) (R Richards) D Bennett 4-11-4	S Dalton	82
104	(5)	248145	FATHER DAN 8 (F,S) (Winston Fay) Miss E Kellaway 6 10-5	R Johnson	93
105	(10)	3439810	BACKVIEW 74 (D,S) (E O'Malley) B Llewellyn 3-10-4	K Sactama (4)	93
106	(3)	4-05429	MINNESOTA VIKING 57 (D,BF,F,S) Lady Herries 4-10-3	P Pritchard-Gordon	97
107	(9)	315185	KRAYVAN DAWN 30 (D,F,S) (R Beetsome) R Akehurst 5-10-0	T McCarthy	94
108	(2)	003284	CURAN MIGHTS 29 (E O'Malley) B Llewellyn 3-9-13	J L Llewellyn	–
109	(9)	956434	AIR COMMAND 100 (S,S) (E Phillips) C Nash 5-9-11	P Phillips (4)	90
110	(1)	385248	EURO FORUM 9 (The Forum Ltd) G L Moore 3-9-8	K Gubbi (4)	86
111	(12)	000430	GRAND APPLAUSE 13 (M Lewis) M Haggerdge 5-9-7	S Rutherford (4)	89
112	(9)	0/0560-0	REGAL AURA 8 (F) (Mrs V O'Brien) D O'Brien 5-8-7	V Lukaniuk (4)	90

Long handicap: Regal Aura 9-0.

BETTING: 3-1 Father Dan, 5-1 Krayvan Dawn, 6-1 Chief Bee, 8-1 Trade Wind, Backview, Golden Arrow, 10-1 Air Command, 12-1 others.

1994: SEASONAL SPLENDOUR 4-12-0 J Dorian (5-2 fav) M Pipe 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHIEF BEE short-head 2nd of 6, awarded race, to Absalt in maiden at Redcar (1m 1f, good to firm) on penultimate start. TRADE WIND best recent effort, beat Conspicuous 11¼l in 11-runner handicap at Windsor (1m 2f, good) with GRAND APPLAUSE (12lb better off) 9¼l 3th. FATHER DAN best recent effort, beat Carpathian 5l in 11-runner handicap at Windsor (1m 3f 135yd, good to firm). BACKVIEW best Racing Hawk 5l in maiden at Wolverhampton (AW, 1m 4f) on penultimate start. MINNESOTA VIKING 2¼l 2nd to Faithful Affair in ladies handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good) on penultimate start. AIR COMMAND 4¾l 3rd of 19 to Meadowsweetie in amateurs handicap at Haydock (1m 2¾f, good to soft) on penultimate start. EURO FORUM 7¾l 3rd to Stony Dam in handicap at Folkestone (1m 4f, soft). Selection: FATHER DAN

2.30 TRIPLEPRINT MAIDEN STAKES BBC2
(2-Y-O: £7,068: 6f) (11 runners)

201	(4)	CORNISH SNOW (B) (Sheikh Mohammed) D Loder 9-0 — L Dettori —
202	(11)	INSYAAH (H Al Maktoum) J Dunlop 9-0 — W Carson —
203	(3)	LITTLE PILGRIM (R Page) T Jones 9-0 — R Perham —
204	(8)	MUTAMANNI (H Al Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 9-0 — R Hills —
205	(1)	NORTHERN JUDGE (A Ali) B Hanbury 9-0 — W Ryan —
206	(6)	OLD HAT (Fahd Salman) R Hannon 9-0 — Pat Eddery —
207	(5)	WARRIOR KNIGHT (Mrs B Sumner) C Horgan 9-0 — W Newnes —
208	(7)	BANDIT GIRL (J Smith) J Balding 8-9 — M Hills —
209	(10)	MIDNIGHT BLUE (Sussex Essex Racing) W Jarvis 8-9 — J Reid —
210	(2)	TAWAADED (H Al Maktoum) P Walwyn 8-9 — D Harrison —
211	(9)	VALJESS (Mrs R Blake) D O'Brien 8-9 — Dana O'Neill —

BETTING: 7-4 Cornish Snow, 7-2 Insyaah, 9-2 Mutamanni, 7-1 Bandit Girl, 8-1 Old Hat, 10-1 Northern Judge, 12-1 others.

1994: KAYRAWAN 9-0 R Hills (8-11 fav) H Thomson Jones 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

CORNISH SNOW (scaled Mar 23). First foal, by Shirley Cut. INSYAAH (Jan 15). Half-brother by Mr Prospector to Aquarist; dam won Marcel Boussac. MUTAMANNI (Mar 21). First foal by Caerleon; dam smart 5f winner. NORTHERN JUDGE (Apr 28; cost 23,000gns). Half-brother by Highest Honor to smart filly Saqbaqq. OLD HAT (Apr 16). Brother to 7f winner Summer Hall. BANDIT GIRL (Mar 8). Half-sister by Robellino to smart sprinter Blue Siren. TAWAADED (Feb 6). Third foal, by Nashwan; dam smart sprinter. No selection

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Lady Herries	6	28	23.1	J Weaver	11	62	17.7
G Wragg	16	75	21.3	Pat Eddery	35	242	14.5
Mrs J Cecil	4	21	19.0	W Carson	35	247	14.2
J Dunlop	23	124	18.5	L Dettori	29	257	12.1
H Cecil	17	95	17.9	M Roberts	25	226	11.1
P Cole	18	105	17.1	W Ryan	4	37	10.8

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BONUSPRINT OCTOBER STAKES
1 mile, Ascot 3.05pm, Live on BBC TV.

11/4 Louis Queen
10/3 Goalwah
9/2 A La Carte
9/2 Crystal Cavern
10/1 Autumn Affair
10/1 Courageous Dancer
12/1 Donna Viola
16/1 Alessia
33/1 Pearl Venture

Each way One fifth the odds a place 1, 2, 3. Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to 2.50pm. Tattersalls Rule 4(c) may apply. Non runner – no bet.

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GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,S,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... S West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J ll jumps. F d flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner CD — course and distance winner BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. S — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.05 BONUSPRINT OCTOBER STAKES BBC2
(Listed race: fillies: £17,019: 1m rnd) (10 runners)

301	(8)	53-4810	MONEEFA 27 (BF,G) (A Faisal) H Cecil 4-8-11	Pat Eddery	71
302	(1)	218434	A LA CARTE 12 (CD,BF,F) (Barclay-Abbott Racing) J Dunlop 3-8-7	T Quinn	98
303	(2)	531-540	ALESSIA 12 (S) (D Dean) B Hills 3-8-7	M Hills	86
304	(5)	61-3060	AUTUMN AFFAIR 12 (C,S) (R Richards) C Brittain 3-8-7	M Roberts	96
305	(10)	154502	COURAGEOUS DANCER 12 (S) (A Ali) B Hanbury 3-8-7	W Ryan	87
306	(4)	61-5502	CRYSTAL CAVERN 18 (S) (F Copenhagen) R Charlton 3-8-7	D Harrison	92
307	(8)	141415	DONNA VIOLA 12 (D,BF,F,S) (K Scott) C Wall 3-8-7	L Dettori	83
308	(7)	2213	GOALWAH 24 (D,F) (H Al Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 3-8-7	R Hills	94
309	(5)	1110-26	LOUIS' QUEEN 26 (F,G,S) (P Whitelaw) J Dunlop 3-8-7	J Reid	89
310	(3)	103460	PEARL VENTURE 24 (F) (F Chau) S Woods 3-8-7	W Woods	86

BETTING: 5-2 Goalwah, 3-1 Louis' Queen, 7-1 A La Carte, Donna Viola, Courageous Dancer, 8-1 Crystal Cavern, 10-1 Autumn Affair, 12-1 others.

1994: SOVINISTA 3-8-10 M Roberts (8-1) J Dunlop 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

MONEEFA beat Phyllan 2¼l in 9-runner handicap at Beverley (1m 2f, good to firm) on penultimate start. COURAGEOUS DANCER 3¼l 2nd of 9 to Hiwaya in listed handicap over course and distance (soft) with A LA CARTE (17lb better off) about 4¼l 4th. DONNA VIOLA (4lb better off) 2¼l 5th and AUTUMN AFFAIR (16lb better off) about 4¾l 7th. CRYSTAL CAVERN head 2nd of 7 to Maedanna in conditions race at Brighton (7f, good). DONNA VIOLA beat La Gran Senorita 2l in 12-runner handicap at Sandown (1m, good to soft) on penultimate start. GOALWAH 1¾l 3rd of 12 to Poppy Carew in listed race at Yarmouth (1m 2f, good) with PEARL VENTURE 17¼l 12th. LOUIS' QUEEN 1¾l 2nd of 6 to Private Line in listed race at Sandown (1m, good to firm) on penultimate start with A LA CARTE neck 3rd.

Selection: A LA CARTE

3.40 AIR IONIATION NURSERY HANDICAP BBC2
(2-Y-O: £9,758: 7f) (7 runners)

401	(1)	426114	DOUBLE DIAMOND 30 (D,BF,G) M Johnston 9-7	J Weaver	90
402	(7)	001243	RHUMBA DANCER 21 (F) (N Ahamad) R Hannon 9-4	Dane O'Neill (5)	87
403	(6)	10	FRIENDS CA 97 (F) (P Adams) R Hannon 9-3	Pat Eddery	92
404	(5)	334360	FREZELIERE 10 (S) (Lord Chelsea) J Dunlop 9-3	L Dettori	92
405	(4)	042352	HALF AN INCH 10 (S) (T Dale & Mr C Mills) B Meehan 8-4	J F Egan	89
406	(3)	00431	BOLD ENOUGH 9 (D,S) (R Richards) B Hills 8-3 (5ex)	R Hills	91
407	(2)	10004	CAREFUL 14 (Mrs J Corbett) B Hills 7-11	W Carson	91

BETTING: 9-4 Half An Inch, 7-2 Careful, 9-2 Rhumba Dancer, 11-2 Double Diamond, 9-1 Friends Ca, 10-1 Frezeliere, 14-1 Direkt.

1994: MELASUS 8-3 J Weaver (16-1) D Arbuthnot 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOUBLE DIAMOND 2¼l 4th of 17 to No Cliches in nursery at Doncaster (1m, good to firm). RHUMBA DANCER 7½l 3rd of 15 to Ramooz in nursery at Newbury (7f 64yd, good to soft). FRIENDS CA best Scarlet Plume rank 9 to 9-runner maiden at Goodwood (6f, good to firm) on penultimate start. FREZELIERE 2¾l 7th of 16 to Pacific Grove in nursery at Newmarket (7f, good). HALF AN INCH 1l 2nd of 15 to Warning Trends in nursery at Brighton (7f, good). BOLD ENOUGH best La Rhoda 1¼l in 9-runner rated maiden at Newcastle (7f, good). CAREFUL about 2¾l 4th of 13 in Lunar Mist in nursery at Haydock (6f, good). Selection: HALF AN INCH

4.15 WYNDHAM HANDICAP (£9,849: 2m 45yd) (12 runners)

501	(5)	402052	BENFLEET 13 (B,S) (C Donoway) R Armstrong 4-9-12	L Dettori	95
502	(11)	4/U5	BEAN KING 16 (F,B,S) (J Stone) Mrs J Cecil 5-9-6	T Ives	94
503	(11)	510630	RIPARIUS 14 (B,S,S) (Mrs D Blackburn) H Candy 4-9-3	W Newnes	93
504	(9)	3-40334	MEANT TO BE 13 (F,S) (Lady Mary Manston) Lady Herries 5-9-1	J Reid	94
505	(3)	283240	SEA FREEDOM 13 (Miss B Swire) G Balding 4-8-8	J Williams	97
506	(6)	121223	SUPREME STAR 13 (F,S) (J Whelan) P Hedger 4-8-8	Dane O'Neill (5)	97
507	(10)	0-02510	TURQUOISE SEA 11 (BF,S) (Exors Of Mrs E Whitte) J Dunlop 3-8-8	W Carson	96
508	(7)	6/22142	FRENCH IVY 16 (CD,BF,F,S) (K Flood) F Murphy 6-8-2	R Cochrane	98
509	(12)	312250	REQUESTED 9 (CD,F,S) (S Allen) P Burgoyne 8-7-12	J F Egan	93
510	(2)	50-0000	STAR PLAYER 13 (D,F,S) (P Smith) S Bates 9-7-7	N Varley (3)	89
511	(8)	200301	GREYCOAT BOY 11 (B,F) (N Rimington) B Meehan 3-7-7 (5ex)	N Carlisle	97
512	(4)	036064	HEAD TURNER 3 (D,S,S) (I Jenard) C Wildman 7-7-7	N Adams	86

Long handicap: Head Turner 6-8.

BETTING: 7-2 Benfleet, 4-1 French Ivy, 5-1 Supreme Star, 7-1 Greycoat Boy, Meant To Be, 8-1 Bean King, 10-1 Turquoise Sea, 12-1 others.

1994: TRANSOM 8-7 R Cochrane (2-1 fav) G Harwood 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

BENFLEET 3l 2nd of 16 to Fellyana Crest in handicap over course and distance (good) with SUPREME STAR (1lb better off) 2½l 3rd and MEANT TO BE (2lb better off) 1¼l 4th. RIPARIUS 4¼l 3rd of 8 to My Learned Friend in handicap at Newbury (1m 4f, good to firm) on penultimate start. SUPREME STAR 1¾l 2nd of 10 to Lear Dancer in handicap at Goodwood (2m, good) on penultimate start with SEA FREEDOM (6lb better off) 4½l 4th. TURQUOISE SEA beat Good Hand 4l in 14-runner handicap at Ayr (2m 1f 105yd, good) on penultimate start. FRENCH IVY ½l 2nd at 11 to Lisdanagel in handicap at Chester (2m, good to soft) with BEAN KING (1lb better off) about 5¼l 5th. GREYCOAT BOY best Paradise Navy 2½l in 14-runner handicap at Bath (2m 1f, good to firm) with TURQUOISE SEA (3lb better off) 12½l 8th.

Selection: BENFLEET (nap)

4.45 MAYFLOWER CONDITIONS STAKES
(Apprentices: £4,041: 1m str) (9 runners)

601	(1)	015249	BEAUCHAMP JAZZ 71 (D,F,S) (E Penser) J Dunlop 3-9-1	A Whelan	88
602	(9)		EMPERORS WOOD 27J (Maidenlee Racing) P Haywood 4-8-11	P Fessey (3)	–
603	(4)	0535-00	PRECIOUS WONDER 178 (S) (D Butler) P Butler 5-8-11	G Mitchell (3)	50
604	(7)	403403	SALTANDO 7 (Mrs S Heritage) Pat Mitchell 4-8-11	Dane O'Neill	63
605	(8)	000830	AUTUMN COVER 9 (G Alexander) R Fisher 3-8-7	D Biggins	52
606	(6)	6	COEUR FRANCAIS 21 (Lucayan Stud) D Chappell 3-8-7	M Henry	–
607	(3)		KING OF TUNES (Mrs E Sheehan) J Sheehan 3-8-7	P P Murphy	–
608	(2)	0	GREEN DAVOT 17 (K Payne) G Wragg 4-8-8	G Milligan (5)	–
609	(5)	55-0252	LA GRAN SENORITA 24 (Fahd Salman) P Cole 3-8-2	David O'Neill (7)	92

BETTING: 8-4 Beauchamp Jazz, 2-1 La Gran Senorita, 7-1 Coeur Francais, 8-1 Saltando, Green Davot, 10-1 Autumn Cover, 12-1 others.

1994: KAYVEE 5-8-6 P Houghton (13-8 fav) G Harwood 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

BEAUCHAMP JAZZ about 1¼l 4th of 9 to Lap Of Luxury in handicap at Sandown (1m, good to firm) on penultimate start. SALTANDO 2¼l 3rd of 22 to Swinging Sixties in claiming handicap at Goodwood (1m, good). AUTUMN COVER best 3rd of 10 to Jewel-Hunter Saunders and Khalifa Hamm in apprentices handicap at Newmarket (1m, good to firm). COEUR FRANCAIS 6¾l 6th of 19 to Tasawa in maiden at Newbury (1m, good to soft). LA GRAN SENORITA 2l 2nd of 12 to Donna Viola in handicap at Sandown (1m, good to soft).

Selection: BEAUCHAMP JAZZ

5.15 TANKERVILLE HANDICAP (£7,328: 1m 4f) (15 runners)

1	(4)	601010	LOKI 10 (D,BF,F,S,S) (M Watt) B Lewis 7-9-10	J Reid	95
2	(5)	401234	COUNTRY STAR 20 (F) (Fahd Salman) H Candy 4-9-10	W Newnes	99
3	(15)	123240	ARTIC COURIER 12 (D,F) (Britain Promotions Ltd) D Cosgrove 4-9-8	M Rimmer	94
4	(14)	234330	SWALLOWS DREAM 29 (B,F,S) (Windflower) J Dunlop 4-9-7	W Carson	94
5	(9)	053416	BIT ON THE SIDE 12 (D,S,S) (M Haskell) W Musson 6-9-5	Paz Eddery	98
6	(3)	00-0056	UNFORGIVING MINUTE 14 (S) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 5-9-4	M Henry (5)	93
7	(12)	451240	BAYRAK 108 (D,S,S) (A Beal) M Ryan 5-9-1	R Cochrane	90
8	(13)	322101	MR BROWNING 40 (B,D,F) (Mrs M O'Shea) R Akehurst 4-8-1	S Sanders	94
9	(11)	01-6	INDIGO TIME 7 (S) (T Wall) P Cole 3-8-0	T Quinn	88
10	(2)	222321	LUCAYAN SUNSHINE 14 (D,S) (Lucayan Stud) Lady Herries 3-9-0	L Dettori	95
11	(10)	362140	SHARP FALCON 12 (D,F,S) (G Milby) J Wharton 4-9-0	J Weaver	93
12	(6)	406100	RIVER ICEEN 23 (B,C,F) (M Yeh) R Armstrong 3-8-11	R Price	86
13	(1)	300121-	REMEI 461 (D,F,S) (I Goldsmith) R Akehurst 6-8-8	D Harrison	88
14	(8)	304122	KALOU 5 (D,F) (Mrs M Butler) W Elsey 4-8-8	P Fessey (5)	89
15	(7)	503560	NO SPEECHES 3 (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 4-7-7	N Varley (3)	94

BETTING: 7-2 Lucayan Sunshine, 5-1 Mr Browning, 6-1 Bit On The Side, 10-1 Country Star, Remei, Swallows Dream, 12-1 Loki, 14-1 others

1994: BLUSHING FLAME 3-8-11 W R Swinburn (3-1 fav) M Stoute 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

LOKI beat Kandyan ½l in 10-runner handicap at Catterick (1m 4f, good) on penultimate start. COUNTRY STAR 3¼l 4th of 20 to Katie in handicap at Newbury (1m 2f, good to soft). Previously 4¼l 3rd of 11 to Persian Elite in handicap at Kempton (1m 4f, good) BIT ON THE SIDE about 4l 9th of 18 to Taxilano. Melody in handicap over course and distance (soft) with SHARP FALCON (4lb better) 5l 12th. MR BROWNING best Supreme Star 4l in 16-runner handicap at Goodwood (1m 4f, good to firm). LUCAYAN SUNSHINE best Floating Line short-head in handicap at Haydock (1m 4f, good). REMEI beat SWALLOWS DREAM (4lb better) short-head in 7-runner handicap at Sandown (1m 3l 91yd, good to firm), July 1994. KALOU 5l 3rd of 13 to Lord Hastie in handicap at Haydock (1m 4f, soft).

Selection: COUNTRY STAR

Goalwah to strike over best distance

ASCOT
BBC2

2.30: Cornish Snow looked on particularly good terms with himself when working at Newmarket last Friday, although he tried to dump Frankie Dettori on the ground at the end of the gallop, which may explain the fitting of blinkers. Regarded as above average at David Loder's yard, the Storm Cat colt can make a winning debut. The well bred Insiyabi holds a Derby entry but refused to enter the stalls on his intended bow last month. Tom Jones invariably has his newcomers ready first time out and Mutamanni could be the biggest danger.

3.05: Not a race which makes much betting appeal, given that several of these fillies have been on the go for a long time while others are untested on a soft surface. A La Carte, a course and distance winner back in May, should reverse recent form with Courageous Dancer. Crystal Cavern ran her best race at Brighton last time but is unproven on this ground or at this trip. Louis' Queen goes well on the soft and should go close, but preference is for Goalwah. Lightly raced, she should appreciate the return to a mile after fading late on behind Poppy Carew.

3.40: The in-form Barry Hills complicates matters by having two runners, but I quite like Careful, with Willie Carson booked to ride. She failed to get a clear run inside the final furlong at Haydock last time, and should relish today's extra furlong. Half An Inch is the form choice but had a tough race last time and Rhumba Dancer is a bigger threat.

RICHARD EVANS



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

CARLISLE

THUNDERER

1.50 Elation. 2.20 Spanish Light. 2.55 Dancing Dove. 3.30 Countorus. 4.00 Xara Palace. 4.35 Deep Dark Dawn. 5.05 Fenwick's Brother.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

1.50 SHAP JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,332: 2m 1f) (14 runners)

1		21	ELATION 15 (F) G Richards 11-5	A Dobbin	
2			BUSHENR 20F S Coathup 11-0	Mr C Bonner (3)	
3		3	CENTAUR EXPRESS 20 A Streeter 11-0	T Eley	
4		3	EDEN DANCER 15 Mrs M Reveley 11-0	P Niven	
5		0	JACKAMAR 15 W Kemp 11-5	S Storey	
6		P	J C GREY 15 (V) Denys Smith 11-0	A Thornton	
7		0	KINGS VISION 20 S Rothwell 11-0	R Supple	
8			MIDNACO GOLD 12F R McKellar 11-0	J F Titley	
9		4	MR PERSONALITY 6 Mrs M Reveley 11-0	N Smith	
10			PATTERN ARMS D Moffatt 11-0	D J Moffatt	
11		4	PUNCH 12F (BF) N Tinkler 11-0	M Dwyer	
12			ROBELLINA 14F M Dods 11-0	J Callaghan	
13		P	SPRING WONDER 20 Mrs V Aconley 11-0	P Gould (7)	
14		23	CURLIN CAPER 48 T Watson 10-9	R Guest	

7-4 Elation, 7-2 Eden Dancer, 5-1 Punch, 6-1 Mr Personality, 8-1 Centaur Express, 10-1 Bushenr, 14-1 Curlin Caper, 20-1 others.

2.20 NORWEB NOVICES CHASE
(£3,436: 2m 4f 110yd) (7)

1			MCGREGOR THE THIRD G Richards 9-11-0	B Harding (5)
2		F-6	MOORECHURCH GLEN 10 Miss M Milligan 9-11-0	P Waggott
3		600-	MOVIE MAKER 306 F Murtagh 7-11-0	R Supple
4		3F52	NOVA CHAMP 7 Mrs S Smith 7-11-0	R Guest
5		034-	PLUMBOB 162 (G) L Lungo 8-11-0	F Perratt (3)
6		142-	SPANISH LIGHT 141 (F) G Richards 6-11-0	A Dobbin
7		PP4-	WOLFSVILLE 221 D Lanne 7-11-0	J Burke

2-1 Spanish Light, 5-2 Nova Champ, 3-1 McGregor The Third, 9-2 Plumbob, 10-1 Movie Maker, 66-1 Moorechurch Glen, Wolfsville.

2.55 LIBRA GRAVURE CYLINDERS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,178: 2m 1f) (4)

1		3-F2	DANCING DOVE 16 (F,G) G Richards 7-11-10	B Harding
2		140-	CHADWICK'S GINGER 149 (F,G) W Tinning 7-11-4	D Parker
3		60-2	ANDROS GALE 10 J Johnson 6-10-6	A Lamach
4		500/	GOLDEN REVERIE 494 (G) B Mactaggart 7-10-0	G Lee

6-11 Dancing Dove, 7-4 Chadwick's Ginger, 5-1 Andros Gale, 50-1 Golden Reverie

3.30 LIBRA GRAVURE CYLINDERS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,668: 3m) (3)

1		3-31	KUSHBALOO 13 (CD,F,G) C Parker 10-11-10	B Storey
2		211-	COUNTORUS 149 (D,F,G,S) J Johnson 9-11-6	J F Titley
3		2243	SWORD BEACH 10 (D,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 11-11-5	P Niven

4-5 Kushbaloo, 2-1 Countorus, 4-1 Sword Beach.

4.00 ORTON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,038: 2m 4f 110yd) (7)

1		003-	GALE AHEAD 178 G Moore 5-11-10	N Bentley
2		006-	RED ERKON 198 G Holmes 4-11-5	M Dwyer
3		064-	INGRAM VALLEY 172 D Moffatt 5-10-10	D J Moffatt
4		506-	TO BE THE BEST 330 D Lamb 5-10-8	Mr A Manners (7)
5		P66-	GOLDEN NUGGET 141 (S) E Alston 8-10-6	L Wyer
6		00-3	XARA PALACE 16 G Richards 5-10-5	A Dobbin
7		040-	SILVER SHILLING 259 R Cockburn 8-10-0	Mr C Mulhall

7-4 Gale Ahead, 11-4 Ingram Valley, 7-2 To Be The Best, 4-1 Xara Palace, 14-1 Red Erkon, 16-1 Golden Nugget, 50-1 Silver Shilling

4.35 BRITISH DENKAVIT HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,371: 2m) (5)

1		12P-	MR WOODCOCK 167 (F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 10-11-11	P Niven
2		1-32	DE JORDAAN 8 (D,BF,F,S) W Cunningham 8-10-12	N Smith
3		363-	POSITIVE ACTION 174 (D,F,S,S) M Barnes 5-10-9	F Perratt (3)
4		1-33	PRECIPICE RUN 6 (D,D,S,S) G Richards 10-10-7	A Dobbin
5		3323	DEEP DARK DAWN 27 (D,F,S) J Upson 10-10-0	J Supple (3)

2-1 Mr Woodcock, 3-1 Precipice Run, 4-1 De Jordaan, 9-2 Deep Dark Dawn, 5-1 Positive Action.

5.05 TARN CRAG NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,151: 2m 1f) (7)

1		FENWICK'S BROTHER 13 (F) J Eyre 5-11-11	F Perratt (3)
2	1-	DIRECT ROUTE 147 (F) J Johnson 4-11-10	Mr C Bonner (3)
3	00-	BLOMD MOSS 167 J Hellens 5-11-4	S Taylor (7)
4		FOLLY LAD J Jefferson 5-11-4	M Newton (7)
5		LOCHINJOSH J Eyre 5-11-4	C Elliott (7)
6		JOCKS CROSS E Richards 4-11-3	B Harding (5)
7	0	GOOD VENTURE 27 L Lloyd-James 4-10-12	B Lee (3)

9-4 Direct Route, 11-4 Jocks Cross, 3-1 Fenwick's Brother, 4-1 Folly Lad, 7-1 Lochinjosh, 50-1 Good Venture, 66-1 Blond Moss.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Jefferson, 11 winners from 35 runners, 31.4%, Mrs M Reveley, 21 from 68, 30.9%; G M Moore, 10 from 60, 16.7%; J Eyre, 3 from 19, 15.8%, Denys Smith, 3 from 20, 15.0%, J Johnson, 6 from 41, 14.6%.

JOCKEYS: T Eley, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; P Niven, 30 from 102, 29.4%, R Supple, 4 from 14, 28.6%; N Bentley, 5 from 24, 20.8%, M Dwyer, 14 from 72, 19.4%, J Burke, 4 from 24, 16.7%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ascot: 2.30 Cornish Snow 5 15 Swallows Dream. Carlisle: 1.50 J C Grey, Punch

CHELTENHAM

THUNDERER

2.10 Patroclus. 2.45 Pridwell. 3.15 Father Sky. 3.50 Egypt Mill Prince. 4.25 Saint Ciel. 4.55 James Pigg. 5.30 Ashwell Boy.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.15 FATHER SKY.

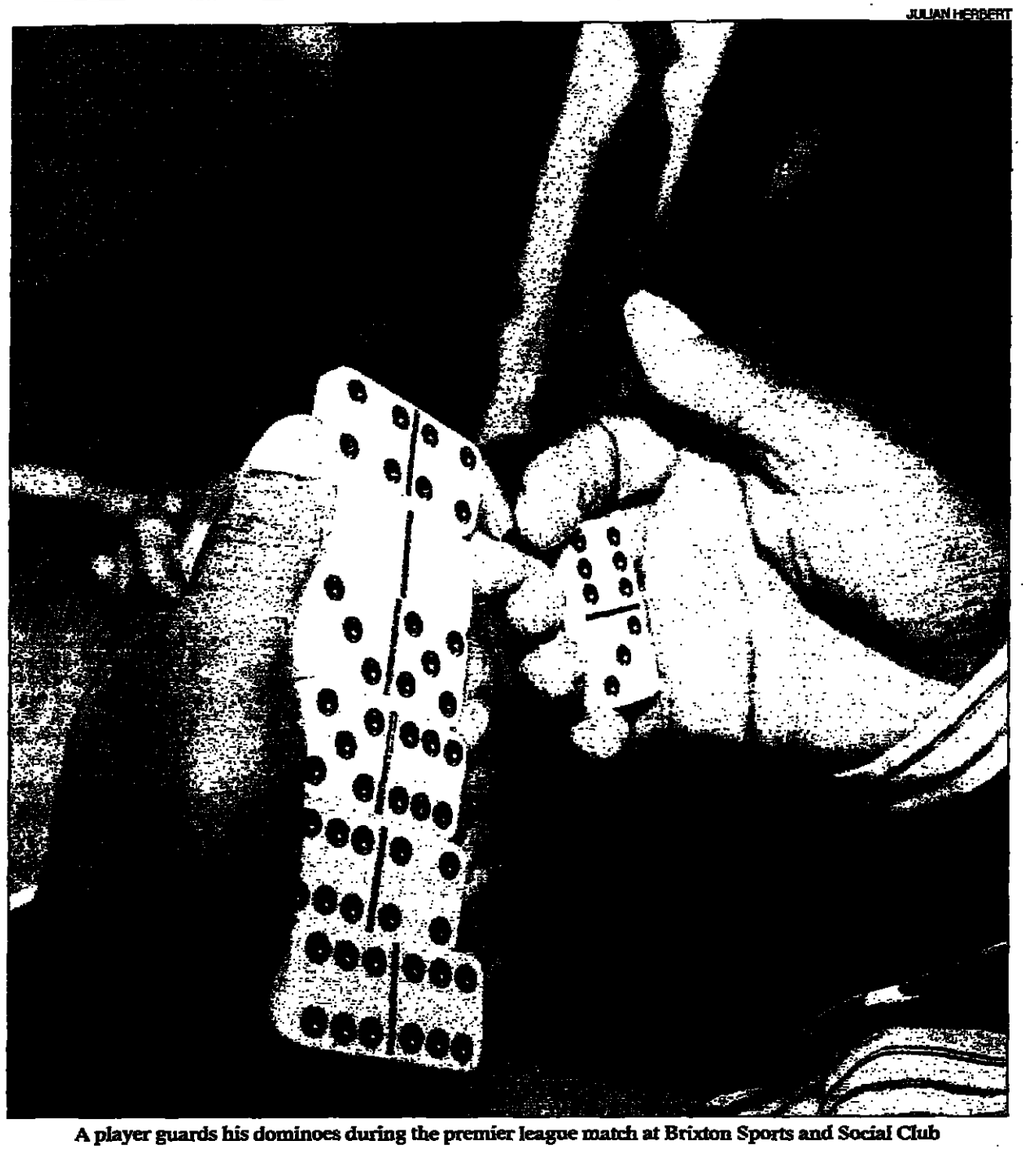
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

2.10 FRENCHIE NICHOLSON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,264: 2m 5f) (5 runners)

1		2132	GONE BY 4 (B,F,G) J Jenkins 7-11-10	C Rae (

Dinner, dance and the domino effect

JULIAN HERBERT



A player guards his dominoes during the premier league match at Brixton Sports and Social Club

I had done my homework: looked up the whereabouts of Coldharbour Lane in the London gazetteer; verified that Wray and Nephew, sponsors of the United Kingdom Domino League, are the very *same* West *Indies* wine and spirit merchants who produce Jamaican overproof rum known on the island as "be rude to your mother-in-law".

I confirmed that the game played in the league is not five-and-threes, which we play in East Anglia, but the follow-on or penny-a-spot game; that teams consist of six pairs who use "codes" ...



FREUD ON FRIDAY

secret signs between players to denote who holds which stones. Dominoes without "code" is known as "mental", considered fit for women and children. And dominoes is a sport, not a game.

A "bower" is one who gets rid of all his stones and wins the match. A "block" is when no player can follow on, when the winners are the pair that hold fewest points. If there is a draw, there is no score but the next game is called a Derby and counts double. The winning team is the first to 151 points and Brixton, who hosted this encounter, head the premier league table, Sheffield United, their opponents, hold it up.

My informant who gave me directions to the venue also instructed me in Brixton-speak, and taught me "Let me *have a toke at your spliff*", so that I would blend with the indigenous citizenry. Toke is like drag, only deeper; spliff is a joint and it was with some consternation that I entered the Brixton Sports and Social Club on the night of the match, went to buy a drink at the bar run by so voluminous a woman she would have lasted me all my life were I careful, to find a notice stating: No drugs. No swearing.

I asked politely for an Appleton Estate, which is white rum reminiscent of high-quality lighter fuel, and I think it would be wise to confine consumption of this potion, were you intending to do anything serious over the next few days.

The Sheffield United team had arrived by coach soon after 4pm — a 3½ hour journey for 20 players and 14 supporters — wives, girlfriends or just people who thought Brixton greengrocers' yams might have the edge over those in the North.

They pay £10 a head, which includes travel, cups of beef soup on arrival, dinner after the game and dancing until 2am, when the licence ends.

If you think that you now have a general idea of what goes on, you are wrong. The room beyond the bar is divided by a rope and on one side are the six tables and 24 darkly intent men in suits and collars and ties (there is a dress code) who slam down their stones in the manner of Corsican peasants depositing *their cards in bezique — and* when a pair win they hit the table with their open palms and shout; on the far side of the dividing rope their supporters, who cannot see the stones but can read the body language, cheer and punch the air and jump up and down. Each side has a scorer who gauges the result from the identity of the noisemakers. There are team captains who monitor what goes on and exchange players who are not performing as they might, have had an Appleton too *many or too few. At the far* end of the room a man with a definitive scoreboard provides the running total.

The Sheffield captain is a quiet diplomat; Brixton's wears a red beret, is younger and louder. Reserve players wait by the rope or sit in the bar. I get as close as I can to watch the game, try to work out the signals, which are minimalist tic-tac — one gesture to denote the number, another the total of stones held bearing it. "Rising" means indicating which piece *you want your partner to* play; twiddling your fingers means you want a double ... but the sport is about winning, about enabling you to hit the table with brio so that your supporters can shout and cheer and blow whistles and get you another *drink*.

Claudia makes most noise, has the shrillest whistle; she is 27, a secretary, her boyfriend runs his own computer business, plays for Sheffield and she travels to all matches. There used to be a lot of women, when Sheffield were good, but she thinks the team has gone off, needs commitment. "I don't want to insult anyone but we need more new players." She has a soft Yorkshire accent, has been to Jamaica on holiday, believes that what her team requires

'When a pair win they hit the table with open palms and shout'

is, well, commitment. "Like now we are 19 points ahead but the lead is shrinking all the time which is how it goes."

Upstairs in the dining-room and lounge that seats more than 50 people there is a kitchen where the women are cooking the dinner: curried goat, rice 'n peas, tomatoes and lettuce. As in Jamaica, nobody seems to be working and everything gets done and smells good and is spotless.

When I come down again so many people crowd the viewing side of the rope it is *impossible to get near the* action. The countrymen (domino language for away team) are making more noise, slamming their palms on the table with more force; the fact that they are winning, that Brixton are losing, filters through to the fathers, mothers and grannies who are arriving for the dance with eager daughters straight from the hairdresser.

Four and a half hours after the start, it is over. Sheffield have won. Claudia's whistle shrills without pause, Delroy and Linford, Sheffield steelworkers who started as reserves but got to play, hit their table in delight, and from the kitchen above wafts the delicately pungent aroma of curried goat.

RADIO CHOICE

Lyrical feast at midnight

The Land Where The Good Songs Go. *Radio 3, midnight*

Take my tip: stay up late tonight. Otherwise, you will miss a treat. Ignore this advice if you have no ear or appetite for some of the century's finest song lyrics. They are the work of Ira Gershwin, George's brother, and Yip Harburg, who wrote the lyrics in *The Wizard of Oz*. Mark Steyn has blown the dust off the Gershwin and Harburg show songs that are largely forgotten because the shows themselves struggled to survive. Sometimes, the two men worked together, notably for *Life Begins at 8.40*; sometimes, independently (Harburg's *Hooray for What!*, Gershwin's *Of Thee I Sing*). Either way, their lyrics were among the glories of American musical theatre.

Kaleidoscope Special. *Radio 4, 9.30pm*

Marcel Berlins reviews crime fiction in *The Times*. Having a finger on the pulse of the genre made him the ideal chairman for this discussion between some of the crime writers who were in Nottingham for a world mystery convention. Why Nottingham? It could be because of its reputation as one of the most violent cities in Great Britain. In winding up the proceedings, Berlins scarcely needed to opine that crime fiction was *by no means* on its way to the morgue. Without realising it, the woman-in-the-street, interviewed before the discussion, was speaking for Berlins and all the crime fiction fans who flocked to Nottingham when she said: "I like a bit of mystery; I like a bit of gore."

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Dave Pearce 6.00 Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa I'Anson, including at 12.30-12.45 Newsbeat 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat, and at 6.15 The Net 7.00 The Essential Selection 10.00 John Peel 1.00-4.00am *Radio 1 Rap Show*

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce, incl at 10.00 Pick of the Hits 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Debbie Thrower 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Panel Beaters. *The 78 Show* 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night 8.45 Raffles (1/6) 9.00 Listen to the Band: Northop Silver Band 10.00 *Cousin Jack*: The story of Cornish emigrés 12.05am Digby Fairweather 1.00 Charles Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, incl at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine, incl Euronews and at 11.00 News, Chain Reaction 12.00 Midday with Mair, incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck; and at 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, incl at 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Extra, incl at 7.20 sport and racing results 7.35 Parkinson on Sport 9.05 American Graffiti 9.35 Stop Press 10.05 Entertainment Superhighway 11.00 Night Extra, incl at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am After Hours 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr 7.00 Simon Bates 10.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raeburn 4.00 Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner 7.00 Sean Bolger 9.00 Mozz Dee 10.00 Mike Allen 1.00-6.00am Nick Miller

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. 5.00am Newsdesk 5.30 *Off the Shelf: An Instant in the Wind* 6.45 Folk Routes 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 Newsday 7.30 Europe Today 8.00 News 8.15 Off the Shelf: *An Instant in the Wind* 8.30 In the Lion's Den 9.00 News 9.10 Faith 9.15 *Music Review* 10.00 *News in German* 10.15 Faith 10.45 Sport 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Off the Shelf: *An Instant in the Wind* Noon Newsdesk 12.30pm Meridian 1.00 News 1.05 Business Report 1.15 Britain *Today* 1.30 Science 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack: Alternative 4.00 News in German 4.15 Music Review 5.00 News 5.15 The World Today 5.30 News in German 6.00 Europe Today 6.30 Business Report 6.45 Sport 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 News in German 8.00 News 8.01 Outlook 8.25 Faith 8.30 Multitrack 9.00 Newshour 10.00 World News 10.05 Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 People and Politics 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 The World Today 12.45 Sport Midnight News 12.10am Science View 12.15 John Peel 12.45 Farming 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 From the Weeklies 1.45 Britain 2.00 News 2.10 Press Review 2.15 Seven Days 2.30 Jazz 2.45 Books 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Politics 4.00 News 4.15 Sport 4.30 Vintage Chart

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Early Breakfast 6.00 Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 Classic Verdict 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Meppin 1.00am Robert Booth

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Horne 7.30 Paul Coyte 10.00 J.T. Grace 2.00am Howard Pearce

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Maths — Exam Revision
6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Mozart (Symphony in G; L'amero, saro costante, Il Re Pastore); Alkan (Sonatine, Op 61); 8.05 Copland (Cuban Dance); Beethoven (Mailed, Op 52 No 5; Neue Liebe, neues Leben, Op 75 No 2); Martinů (Serenade No 4, Divertimento)
9.00 Composer of the Week: J.S. Bach (r)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chrs de Souza. *Artist of the Week*: Virginia Black, harpsichord, plays Martinez (Sonata in E); Nielsen (Flute Concerto: Patrick Gallois; Danish RSO under Ulf Schirmer); Pärt (Fratres for string quartet); Mozart (Violin Sonata in G); 11.15 Mendelssohn (Symphony No 3 in A minor, Scottish)
12.00 Celtic Horizons: BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Grant Llewellyn performs Mathias (Symphony No 2, Summer Music); Judith Weir (Music Untangled); Peter Maxwell Davies (An Orkney Wedding, with Sunrise) (r)
1.00pm Fairest Isle: Chamber Music from Manchester. Emperor Quartet performs Kenneth Dempster (Under the Hammer); Debussy (String Quartet in G minor)
2.00 Schools: Let's Make a Story 2.15 Music Box 2.30 Dance Workshop 2.50 Poetry Corner
3.00 Mining the Archive: Gordon Stewart presents a profile of the life and performances of *the soprano Irmgard Seefried*
4.20 Fairest Isle: Turns of the Century. The radio stand-up comic Gillie Potter
4.30 The World of Yiddish Music, by Alex Knapp
5.00 The Music Machine: Dulay Collective answers questions put by Coventry music students at the Warwick Arts Centre
5.15 In Tune, including Beethoven (Rondo a capriccio in G, Rage over a Lost Penny); 6.03 Telemann (Oboe Concerto in E); Haydn (Symphony No 22 in E flat, Philosopher)
7.30 Fairest Isle: Granville Bantock, live from St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, London. BBC Singers under Simon Joly perform Bantock (Vanity of Vanities); 8.10 Choral Scene and Heard: Simon Joly talks about his 13 years as conductor of the BBC Singers; 8.30 Bantock (Atalanta in Calydon)
9.20 Young Irish: In the last of five programmes exploring the *aims of young Irish writers*, Mark Richard talks to Colum McCann in New York
9.45 Hear and Now: John Tilbury, piano, begins the first in a series of concerts at London's *Institute of Contemporary Arts*, with miniatures by Howard Skempton, Michael Finnissy and Michael Parsons, and *Palais de Marie* by Morton Feldman; also the Jeremy Peyton-Jones Ensemble plays Feldman (Suite from Sangre and Nocturne, Dreams Winter)
12.00-1.00am The Land Where the Good Songs Go (r). See Choice

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW only) 6.00 News, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Scottish Journeys, by Andrew Eames. Final part 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs: The castaway is the racehorse trainer Jenny Pitman (r)
9.45 Letters from the Boardroom: Howard Davies examines how the new relationship between Government and business benefits Britain
10.00-10.30 News; Footprints on the Landscape (FM only): Jessica Holm explores the tensions and conflicts over land use in the Cairngorms
10.00 Holy Land Pilgrimage Daily Service (LW)
10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Serial: *Changes*, by Ama Ata Aidoo (7/8)
11.30 The Natural History Programme
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm The Food Programme: Derek Cooper goes on-line with internet enthusiast and cook Richard Erlich 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Classic Serial: Wuthering Heights, by Emily Brontë. Final part (r)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Brian Sibley
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Paul Smith talks about his *exhibition at the Design Museum*
4.45 Short Story: Laughing Matter (First Bite), by Deirdre Heddon. Read by Wendy Seager
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 News 6.30 Going Places: Alvin Stardust visits the Denby pottery HQ in Derbyshire
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week
8.05 Any Questions? Nick Clarke hosts a topical discussion in Eastbourne with guests Lord Howe of Aberavon; Dominic Lawson, Editor of *The Spectator*; Gillian Reynolds, the *Daily Telegraph*'s radio critic; and Jack Straw, MP, Shadow Home Secretary
8.50 The Art of Travel: Paul Bowles recalls a key journey around North Africa, which inspired his novel *The Sheltering Sky* (r)
9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke
9.30 Kaleidoscope Special (r). See Choice 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: The Mist in the Mirror, by Susan Hill. Gareth Armstrong reads *the* final part (r)
11.00 Week Ending: Satire
11.25 Tea Junction
11.45 My Kind of Trust: Penelope Keith visits Nymans Gardens in Sussex (r)
12.00 News, incl 12.27 Weather
12.30 The Late Book: The Information, by Martin Amis. Read by William Nighy (6/15)
12.48 Shipping 1.00 As World Service (LW only)

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3: FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: FM 92.4-94.8; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE: MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE: MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO: FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK: MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Deer, Gillian Massey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

Robson delays return in attempt to sign Juninho

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

BRYAN ROBSON has spent all this week and several thousand pounds of Middlesbrough's money in an endeavour to bring Juninho from the beaches of Brazil to the banks of the River Tees. If thus far his efforts have been without reward, Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, remained optimistic last night about signing the 22-year-old Brazil international playmaker, whose club contract at São Paulo expires in November.

Robson, who is in Brazil with the club's chief executive, Keith Lamb, does, however, face competition from Arsenal, Aston Villa, Leeds United and Bobby Robson's FC Porto, of Portugal. Although football business kept Bruce Rioch, the Arsenal manager, away from Highbury yesterday, he was in Britain rather than Brazil and São Paulo have yet to receive a written offer for Juninho from any club other than Middlesbrough.

In Rioch's days as the Middlesbrough manager — he was in charge when they defied liquidation in 1986 — spending between £4.6 million and £6.6 million on a Brazilian dubbed "the new Pelé" would have been inconceivable. How times change. Middlesbrough have offered £4.6 million, but are prepared to *increase this offer to compromise* with São Paulo's £6.6 million demand. Robson can also offer the player more than merely highly-competitive wages. His side now boasts a new, 30,000-capacity stadium, a fine start to the season in the FA Carling Premiership and, *in Nick Barmby, one of the* country's most exciting players.

This is Robson's second visit to Brazil. He visited São Paulo to try to sign Juninho in July and, last night, a spokesman for the Brazilian club, Eduardo Prada, said: "The only club to make us a serious written offer is Middlesbrough. Talks are at an advanced stage."

So advanced that it seemed Juninho would fly to Teesside yesterday. However, instead of returning in triumph, Robson was forced to delay his scheduled link-up with Terry Venables's England squad as it prepares for next week's international in Norway.

Juninho's club is anxious to cash in before his contract expires. The player has frequently expressed a desire to live in England, but his preference appears to be for London. *Robson's brief is to persuade* Juninho that Teesside life has much more to offer.



Juninho, playing England at Wembley this year, in the Brazilian No 10 shirt, most famously worn by Pelé

United put Cantona on duty in reserves

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MANCHESTER United reserves versus Leeds United reserves would not normally be among the more interesting fixtures on any given Saturday afternoon, but, tomorrow, it will be. The presence of Eric Cantona, hardly your average, normal, common or garden player, will see to that.

With the FA Carling Premiership enjoying a weekend off to allow its leading lights to prepare for international duty next week, Cantona, overlooked by France yesterday for their European championship qualifier in Romania, will be turning out for United's second-string against the reserves from his former club, Leeds. After an eight-month enforced rest, imposed because of his antics at Selhurst Park last season, Cantona, United believe, needs a run out.

"We are hoping to play him," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, confirmed yesterday. "He needs match practice. The more games he plays, the sharper he will get." Cantona has already played twice since returning from suspension, against Liverpool last Sunday and York City on Tuesday night.

Two games, however, were never likely to be enough to persuade the France coach, Aime Jacquet, to recall him. Jacquet has said he would *only choose players at peak* fitness and has also left out Jean-Pierre Papin, who is unable to hold down a first-team place at Bayern Munich. David Ginola, of Newcastle United, has been selected, however.

Northern Ireland have invoked the five-day rule to prevent Jimmy Quinn playing for Reading against West Bromwich Albion tomorrow. Reading had believed Quinn, their joint-player-manager, would be available for the game.

Tony Mowbray, 31, the central defender, yesterday joined Ipswich Town in a £300,000 move from Celtic.

Dover slipping into dire straits

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY KEITH PIKE

A CHANGE of manager for Dover Athletic has failed to halt the dismal run of results that threatens to leave them detached at the foot of the Vauxhall Conference after barely a quarter of the season.

The departure of John Ryan and his replacement by Peter Taylor, the former Tottenham Hotspur and England winger, was followed by two defeats, both to the only goal of the game, against Slough Town and Halifax Town. They extended a sequence that may condemn Dover to an unwanted place in the record-books.

Since beating Northwich Victoria on the opening day of the season, Dover have lost nine successive Conference matches, six of them by one goal. It is the club's worst run since it was reformed in 1983, and three more defeats will see Dover equal the 12-match losing sequence endured by Dagenham in the 1987-88 season.

Taylor, who has recruited Martin Hayes, the striker who once won a League Cup winner's medal with Arsenal, and Danny Foot, a full back, from Southend United, his former club, could not face a more difficult task tomorrow as he seeks to end Dover's misery. They must travel to Aggborough, where Kidderminster Harriers are tearing up a few records of their own.

Before losing 2-0 at Hednesford Town in the second leg of their Spalding Challenge Cup first-round tie on Monday, Darren Steadman, the Kidderminster goalkeeper, had gone 620 minutes without conceding a goal, and even their defeat could not prevent the Conference leaders from going through 4-3 on aggregate. It was the club's best defensive run in 12 years of Conference football.

Graham Allner's team also continue to prove that good conduct and success can go hand in hand. Winners of the Fair Play Trophy for the past two seasons, Kidderminster are again setting the pace this season, having accumulated only eight cautions in the first ten league matches. It is a record that is an obvious source of pride to David Reynolds, the club chairman.



Allner: reflected glory

"It is not something we go out to achieve, but it does reflect the type of club we are," Reynolds said. "Graham [Allner] has been here for 12 years, and it is mainly down to him and the type of players that he signs. No pressure is put on them, but if you don't argue with the referee, tackle correctly and just get on with the game, it helps results."

ALLIED PUBLICITY SERVICES

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FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Athlone v Bohemians (8.0); Drogheda v Galway (7.45); Shelbourne v Shamrock (7.45); St Patrick's Ath v UCD (7.45)

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Three Bridges v Horsham Y M C A

FA CARLSBERG VASE SECOND ROUND QUALIFYING PART TWO: Ansley Nomads v Banbury.

RUGBY LEAGUE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Leigh Miners Welfare v Wigan St Patricks (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: Women's home Internationals (Wrexham).

SPEEDWAY (7.30 unless stated): Premier League: Edinburgh v Glasgow (7.15); Oxford v Exeter (7.45); Peterborough v Cradley Heath.

TENNIS: Men's and women's satellite tournaments (Nottingham). Maureen Connolly Cup: Great Britain under-21 v United States under-21 (Glasgow).

Police procedures and the criminal mind

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

Rum is the word for the telly last night. Trying to find something decent to watch was like one of those dreams where you lose your wallet and nobody cares; so you wander the planet, on and on, knowing you can't go home. People think reviewing television is a perpetual clambake, but in the fifth week of the autumn schedules, it has its desolations, believe me.

Backup (BBC1) never recovered its initial energy; after five weeks, it has settled into a rather stolid drama about a big blonde and the men who fancy her. The strength of the *Backup* concept — that the cases would be mere background to "life in the van" — has worked out less than well. The cases still fill a lot of screen minutes, yet we are also encouraged to forget them while the team goes roistering, because the roistering is more important.

Last night, however, a good theme linked both strands together. The team performed menial, door-to-door inquiries on a rough estate, where an old woman had been stabbed. She was a grass. Among the backups, an unidentified person snitched to the Superintendent about some high jinks; then Thug grassed on Eric to his wife (jealous over the big blonde). It was all about tittle-tattles, you see. Back on the estate, we knew the attacker's identity, but those useless CID people got it wrong, and the plods were jerked around, as usual. Thursday nights resound to the regular noise, now, of the CID in *Backup* barking up the wrong suspect.

Among keen followers of cop series, *Backup* may be causing an uncomfortable sense of déjà vu, incidentally. Consider the subplot of skinny, fresh-faced Bog (Oliver Milburn) and the steely, auburn, voluptuous CID lady who takes advantage of him in the evenings — cavorting her naked body, and offering him pilfered coke. Casting one's mind back a mere four months to the superior *Out of the Blue*, we remember how interesting it was when DS Becky (auburn, voluptuous, but surprisingly steely) toyed with the delicate affections of PC Alex (skinny, fresh-faced, pretty in blue). Perhaps it happens all the time; perhaps it's something to do with the helmets. But anyway, this is what happens when script editors forget to pick up the phone.

David Jessell's provocative *A Mind to Crime* (first part Tuesday) continued with a second film and a late-night debate. Can it be true that the biology of the brain predisposes some people to crime and violence? Steven Rose objected that the films simplified the evidence, perhaps unaware that in television (as opposed to science) this is generally considered a virtue. He also objected that a comparison between a brain marked "murderer" and a brain marked "normal" represented an inadequate control. Neuro-scientists must always be wary of that easy mistake made by *Marty Feldman as Igor in the film Young Frankenstein*. (Instead of "Normal", he stole the brain labelled "A.B. Normal".)

The second film, *Violent Minds*, made less impact than the first, and relied too much on a single computer graphic — a brain turning jauntily through 180 degrees, then lifting off in sections to show the bits inside: a cricket ball and a collection of inner tubes. There was no stopping this graphic, apparently. Jessell's commentary needed only to mention "inside the brain" and there it was again, spinning, lifting, to reveal . . . well, same old stuff. This grew a little tiresome, obviously. Just once, it would have been nice to see some spanners inside, or Sooty having a lie-down.

But *A Mind to Crime* made thought-provoking television, and opened up a new language of "attention deficit disorder" (hyperactivity) and "episodic discontrol" (short temper). One of the problems of the impulsive killer turns out to be a lack of "planfulness" — an ironic neologism for a chap to coin when you consider that he could have found a more elegant word such as "forethought" *if only he'd thought about it first*.

On *EastEnders* (BBC1), children at the junior school hilariously sang those immortal words: "You say eeva, and I say eyeva" (You say neeva and I say neyeva). It was a high point for cockney enthusiasts everywhere. At the Christmas party, perhaps Grant and Phil can do their *He Ain't Heavy He's My Bruvva (No Matter Wot)*.

Finally, ITV's Thursday night comedy **Class Act** concerned a smarmy television evangelist who turned out . . . to be corrupt! Darn it, what a terrible thing! And so unheard of! For half this not-quite-comedy-actually (which is too long at an hour), Joanna Lumley's suspicions about the evangelist chap were apparently unfounded, which seemed like a refreshing twist on expectations. But no, he was a villain and hypocrite in the end, with a bulging off-shore account and a string of clichés about what happens to meddlers.

Not suprisingly, Patrick Barlow *didn't know how to play him*, but who cares? The whole point of *Class Act* is that it floats on air, funny when it feels like it, and motivation is something that happens to other people. To her credit, Joanna Lumley models some very watchable knee-length jackets. She also wears a red scarf with panache. But sadly, the only reliable thing about the central players of *Class Act* is their wardrobe (on which you can almost see the little white tags folded over their shoulders). The odd line is brilliant, if you can be bothered to wait. "She's always *enigmatic when she doesn't know* what she's doing," said Jack (John Bowe) admiringly, last night. With *Class Act*, however, enigmatic is the best you can hope for.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (67032)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (86260631)

9.05 The Rockford Files (r) (9832308)

9.50 Holiday Outings. *Jill Dando cruises along the* Shannon-Erne waterway from the North to southern Ireland (8802341)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5472148) **10.05 Conference Live 95.** The Labour Party (s), including at **11.00, 12.00 News** (Ceefax), regional news (94525983) **12.50pm Regional news** (96815475)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) (79728)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (47198322)

1.55 Columbo. Peter Falk investigates a case of medical murder (r). (Ceefax) (2873896)

3.05 The Great British Quiz (s) (8886254)

3.30 Funnybones: Cat Chase (r) (s) (1113728) **3.35 Robinson Sucroe** (Ceefax) (s) (8693612) **3.55 The Itsy Bitsy Spider** (s) (8680148) **4.15 Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde** (Ceefax) (s) (8492964) **4.30 Record Breakers** (Ceefax) (s) (544)

5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (9014506)

5.10 Blue Peter. Dudley Moore helps to launch a competition. (Ceefax) (s) (2399781)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (328544)

6.00pm Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) (709)

6.30 Regional news magazines (761)

7.00 Wipeout. Game show with Paul Daniels. (Ceefax) (s) (9254). **Wales:** Inside Out



Rebecca Stephens on the ivory trade (7.30pm)

7.30 [redacted] Tomorrow's World. (Ceefax) (s) (273)

8.00 999 Lifesavers. Dramatic tales and reconstructions of real-life rescues, presented by Michael Buerk and *Juliet Morris. In Sark, a family holiday nearly ended* in disaster when two girls were left stranded when their father fell down a cliff; and in Lowestoft a small boy was rescued from a muddy grave. Plus advice on what steps to take if your child has been poisoned. (Ceefax) (s) (8902)

8.30 Only Fools and Horses: Tea for Three. Del Boy and Rodney both fall for the same girl. Comedy with David Jason, Nicholas Lyndhurst and Buster Merryfield (r). (Ceefax) (4709). **Wales:** Wipeout

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) (5419)

9.30 [redacted] Dangerfield: Dem Bones. (Ceefax) (s) (824438)

10.20 FILM: Thunderbolt and Lightfoot (1974). Clint Eastwood and Jeff Bridges team up to rob a bank. Crime caper with Geoffrey Lewis, Catherine Bach and George Kennedy. Directed by Michael Cimino. (Ceefax) (696186). **Wales:** Sierra Whisky Charlie (298186) 10.50 Film: Thunderbolt and Lightfoot (52037235) 12.40-2.10am *Film: Let's* Spend the Night Together (6702668)

12.10 FILM: Let's Spend the Night Together (1982). The Rolling Stones, live on stage during their *Still Life* American tour, singing classics such as *Jumpin' Jack Flash, Street Fighting Man* and *Honky Tonk Woman*. Directed by Hal Ashby (4800552)

1.40am Weather (3703262). Ends at **1.45**

BBC2

6.20am Open University: Animal Physiology **6.45** Instruments in Flight **7.10** Engineering Mechanics **7.35** Deaf-blind Education in Russia (46210506)

8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (6101525)

8.15 The Legend of Prince Valiant (r) (Ceefax) (s) (3274341) **8.40 Lassie** (4031167)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes, plus for children. **10.00-10.30 Playdays** (r) (s) (49099)

1.45 Words and Pictures (s) (26014254) **2.00 Fiddley Foodle Bird** (r) (12846032)

2.10 Racing from Ascot. The **2.30, 3.05** and **3.40** races (209728)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (902) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (r) (s) (186)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (s) (3585322)

5.40 [redacted] Unspeakable Verse (393983)

6.00 The Munsters (b/w). (Ceefax) (833032)

6.25 The New Avengers: The Eagle's Nest. Patrick Macnee, Joanna Lumley and Gareth Hunt uncover a plot to resurrect Hitler (r). (Ceefax) (216167)

7.15 A Bit of Bluff. Robert Robinson asks team captains Frank Muir and Patrick Campbell to define four more curious words (s) (401877)

7.30 TV Ballads. Balladeer Jackie Kay gives her view of the Sabbath. (Ceefax) (s) (815)

8.00 Geoff Hamilton's Cottage Gardens (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6544)

8.30 Jancis Robinson's Wine Course: Sauvignon Blanc. Jancis Robinson visits the Loire Valley and reports on competition from New Zealand's South Island. (Ceefax) (s) (5051)

9.00 Rab C. Nesbitt: Test (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6761)

9.30 Shooting Stars. Comedy quiz with Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer. Captains Mark Lamarr and Ulrika Jonsson are joined by John Peel, Chris Evans and Jonathan Ross. (Ceefax) (s) (99980)



What Germaine Greer cannot abide (10.00pm)

10.00 Room 101. Germaine Greer talks to Nick Hancock about her pet hates. (Ceefax) (s) (80709)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (471780)

11.15 Mondo Rosso. Jonathan Ross looks at *sexploitation films* (s) (881362)

11.45 Weather (799148)

11.50 Close Up. The writer James Ellroy talk about a scene from his favourite film, *Daddy-O* (s) (714457)

11.55 FILM: Tattoo (1981) starring Bruce Dern as a tattoo artist who kidnaps a fashion model with the intention of using her body as a canvas. With Maud Adams, Leonard Frey and John Getz. Directed by Bob Brooks (172438). Ends at **1.40am**

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CHOICE

Unspeakable Verse
BBC2, 5.40pm

Poetry has always had a bad deal on television, perhaps because words are thought to be more suitable for radio. It is not a bad theory, but this unpretentious little series goes some way to disprove it. The format is simple. Well-known actors, such as Leo McKern, Hugh Laurie and Miriam Margolyes, face the camera and perform a selection of comic verse. The ten poems which launch the series are a pleasing mix. They include John Betjeman's diatribe against Slough, a cautionary tale from Hilaire Belloc, a cat song from T.S. Eliot, and pieces from Spike Milligan, Noel Coward and, yes, Pam Ayres. The series is linked to National Poetry Day on October 12, when viewers will be able to vote for their favourite poem.



Ackland and Loxton, in the line of fire (ITV, 8.00pm)

The Bill
ITV, 8.00pm

The police show is famous for tying up its stories on the same evening, in half an hour flat, less commercial breaks. Occasionally, in nearly 11 years of *The Bill*, there have been two-part episodes but never, until now, three. Yet with three slots to fill every week, cliffhangers seem an obvious gambit. There is a terrific one tonight, the culmination of a pulsating storyline by one of the regular writers, Edward Canfor-Dumas. The opening is not bad, either. Trust *The Bill* to get quickly to the point. In a busy shopping street PCs Ackland and Loxton are buttonholed by a woman with a complaint. A shot rings out and the woman slumps to the ground. But the police may have been the real target and there is much worse to come.

Tomorrow's World
BBC1, 7.30pm

Perhaps all those television documentaries about the endangered elephant have got it wrong. For all the wrong reasons, the ivory poachers may have had a point. Rebecca Stephens's report from South Africa suggests that reopening the ivory trade could even help to save the elephant from extinction. In many regions, including Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana, the problem is not too few elephants but too many. Thousands are being culled every year. But the control of elephants is very expensive and an ivory trade, properly managed, could help to pay for it. But how to ensure that poachers were excluded? Meet a man who claims to identify, from the tiniest speck, the game reserve from which ivory comes.

Dangerfield
BBC1, 9.30pm

Let us stop complaining that *Dangerfield* is an amalgam of half a dozen other police and medical dramas and take it for what it is. If the show breaks no new ground, it offers satisfying, well-crafted entertainment in attractive settings with the minimum of violence and gore and absolutely no bad language. Perhaps in today's television climate that is something radical after all. Don Shaw, who created the format, is the author of the latest episode, at the centre of which is nicely-turned puzzle about the identity of a skeleton. Brigit Forsyth, the dreaded Thelma in *Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads?* is excellent as a murder suspect and Nigel Le Vaillant's police surgeon tries to be in three places at once, as always. **Peter Waymark**

CARLTON/LWT

6.00am GMTV (7418099)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep With Dale Winton (s) (5792525) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1227709)

10.00 The Time . . . The Place (s) (9143490)

10.35 This Morning (39569167)

12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (4767235)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) (9111490)

12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (9136709) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (22926761)

1.55 Shortland Street (91280964) **2.20 The Chrystal Rose Show** What price of ambition? (s) (44284051) **2.50 High Road.** (Teletext) (8156693)

3.20 ITN News Headlines (Teletext) (9604493) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) (1872214)

3.30 Jays World (s) (4304099) **3.40 The Spooks of Bottle Bay** (s) (8670761) **4.00 St Tiggywinkles** (6404709) **4.15 Spielberg's Pinky and the Brain** (1147692) **4.40 Fun House** (Teletext) (6024186)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (1253457)

5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (397709)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (860186)

6.25 London Tonight (Teletext) (578544)

7.00 Family Fortunes. Les Dennis presents the quiz show. (Teletext) (s) (4322)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (341)

8.00 [CHOICE] The Bill: Fire (Teletext) (3070)

8.30 Strange But True? Michael Aspel presents real-life supernatural stories. Five years after the historic Clanranald stone was stolen from a graveyard in the Outer Hebrides, it was found in London with the thief dead at its side. (Teletext) (s) (9877)



Susan McArdle and Moray Watson (9.00pm)

9.00 Medics: Coming to Terms Robert's career is in jeopardy when a patient refuses treatment, while Janice (Susan McArdle) befriends an elderly patient (Moray Watson). (Teletext) (s) (2051)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (77235)

10.30 Friday Night Almost Live (39419)

11.30 Doctor Fox's Video Juke Box. Viewers' video requests (10235)

12.30am London Tonight (Teletext) (6718587)

12.40 Sledge Hammer: Jagged Sledge. Hammer is accused of the murder of a Mafia head, and goes on trial (9761674)

1.05 The James Whale Show Entertainment, music and interviews (s) (1916842)

2.05 The Chart Show (s). Followed by **ITN News** headlines (9370303)

3.00 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema. The latest American film releases (86845620)

3.25 Noisy Mothers Rock and heavy metal music scene (s). Followed by **Night Shift** (1113129)

4.30 The New Music. A look at the world music scene from a Canadian perspective; and Sinead O'Connor, the Cure, Supergrass and Elastica at the Glastonbury festival (54465)

5.30 ITN Morning News (31533). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Heathcliffe Cartoon (6060186)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (52051)

9.00 Sabotage (r) (s) (87612)

9.30 Schools Eureka! (6330051) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (6335506) **10.00** Fourways Farm (5489438) **10.10** Believe It or Not (2422438) **10.27** Mathsbook (2263728) **10.40** Off Limits (8670525) **11.05** Out for Adventure (3029761) **11.20** Schools at Work (6326360) **11.40** How We Used to Live (3643322)

12.00 The Secret Life of . . . The Office revealed by Tim Hunkin (r) (74142)

12.30pm Sesame Street (50709) **1.30 Katie and Orbie** (r) (15983)

2.00 Buster Keaton Centenary: Cops (b/w) Vintage slapstick (22466148)

2.20 FILM: The Captain's Paradise (1953, b/w) starring Alec Guinness as a ferry captain with a wife in both ports that he visits. Directed by Anthony Kimmins (Teletext) (710419)

4.00 Splash! Stephanie Wilson embarks on an epic cross-Channel swim (r) (970)

4.30 Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (254)

5.00 Cutting Edge: Nannies (r). (Ceefax) (1235)

6.00 Blossom (r). (Teletext) (s) (419)

6.30 Happy Days Vintage American comedy series with Ron Howard and Henry Winkler (r) (Teletext) Followed by **Terrytoons** (159)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (141709)

7.55 Battered Britain: Fighting Back. Series following the residents of Wolverhampton's Heath Town estate as they attempt to improve their environment (s) (463877)

8.00 Garden Doctors. Dan Pearson tackles the untamed wilderness surrounding a 17th-century barn. (Teletext) (s) (1612)

8.30 Brookside (Teletext) (s) (7419)

9.00 Ellen: The Class Reunion. American sit-com with Ellen DeGeneres (r). (Teletext) (s) (1457)

9.30 Friends: The One Where Rachel Finds Out. Last in the American comedy series about six single friends living in New York. (Teletext) (s) (77768)



Shannon Tweed, Kelsey Grammer (10.00pm)

10.00 Frasier: You Scratch My Book Frasier is smitten by a stunning pop psychologist Starring Kelsey Grammer (Teletext) (s) (75877)

10.30 Clive Anderson Talks Back. *The guests are* Barry Humphries, as Les Patterson and Dame Edna Everidge, and Geoffrey Boycott (s) (482896)

11.10 Passengers The fifth in a ten-part series of the youth magazine features the video diary of Biggie Smalls (aka The Notorious B.I.G.), a former street hustler and drug dealer from Brooklyn who has sold 2.5 million copies of his debut rap album (888548)

12.00 FILM: Project A (1983) Jackie Chan stars in and directs this fast-moving martial arts adventure (90823)

2.00 FILM: Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon (1942, b/w) starring Basil Rathbone as the Baker Street sleuth on the trail of Professor Moriarty who has sold out to the Nazis. Directed by Roy William Neill (Teletext) (2623991) Ends at **3.15am**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (9136709) **1.25** Home and Away (22926761) **1.55** A Country Practice (91280964) **2.20-2.50** Houseparty (44284051) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (1253457) **6.00-7.00** Meridian Tonight (93761) **11.00** Ruby: Does the Sasson (5032) **11.30** Time Trax (10235) ***12.30am*** *The* James Whale Show (68303) **1.30** The Loop (2953991) **1.55** Coach (2963378) **2.25** Noisy Mothers (9283823) **3.25** The Album Show (2206200) **4.20** The Story Of Steam (6341303)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (1227709) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (4776983) **12.25-12.30** My Story (4775254) **12.55** Coronation Street (9136709) **1.25** Home and Away (22926761) **1.55** Frances Bissell's Westcountry Kitchen (6810728) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (8158693) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News; Weather (1872214) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (1253457) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (93761) **10.30** Westcountry News; Weather (143525) **10.40** Mysterious West (943506) **11.10** Good Advice (599780) **11.40** Bodies of Evidence (716525) **12.35am** Coach (9076295)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (9136709) **1.25** Home and Away (22926761) **1.55** A Country Practice (91280964) **2.20-3.10** Murder, She Wrote (2453457) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (1253457) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (849418) **6.30-7.00** It's a Vet's Life (457) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (143525) **10.40** Go Between (943506) **11.10** War and Remembrance (235186) **2.05am** The Big E (9370303) **3.00** The Beat (2294485) **3.55** Shift (6263026) **4.45** Profile (64825552) **5.00** ITV Sport Classics (85945)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (52051) **9.00** Sabotage (87612) **9.30** Ysgolionyschools (12896) **9.30** Eureka! (6330051) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (6335506) **10.00** Fourways Farm (5489438) **10.10** Believe It or Not (2422438) **10.27** Maths Book (2263728) **10.40** Off Limits (8670525) **11.05** Out For Adventure (3029761) **11.20** Stage One Adventure (3029254) **11.35** Schools At Work (6326360) **11.40** How We Used To Live (3643322) **12.00pm** Sesame Street (54849) **1.00** Sioe Mathrin Sam Tbn: I Iym Ac I Law r (62438) **1.30** Pslin's Column: Old Haunts (15983) **2.00** Film: My Boyfriend's Back (2740322) **3.45** Bert Hardy's World - A Portrait (8655506) **5.00** 5 Pump Tentatent (5027493) **5.15** 5 Pump: Syth 95 (9019051) **5.30** Fifteen To One (506) **6.00** Newyddion Gr Nesaf (217070) **6.15** Hano (208273) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (129761) **7.25** Y Tri Dmenstwn (860457) **8.00** Yma Mae' Nghbrn (1612) **8.30** Newyddion (7419) **9.00** Gimau Heb Ffindiau (1457) **9.30** Ellen: *Thirty Kilo Man* (77788) **10.00** Brookside (75877) **10.30** Clive Anderson Talks Back (482896) **11.10** Passengers (668548) **11.59** Beastly Behaviour (709896) **12.00am** Film: Project A (90823)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

7.00am DJ Kat (13419) **8.30** Jeopardy (30728) **9.00** Court TV (14780) **9.30** Oprah Winfrey (23728) **10.30** Blockbusters (10964) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (73870) **12.00** Spellbound (34544) **12.30pm** Designing Women (43780) **1.00** The Waltons (48235) **2.00** Geraldo (86544) **3.00** Court TV (9231) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (3726438) **4.30** Kids TV (1212544) **4.35** Double Dragon (8032) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4341) **6.00** Power Rangers (9526) **6.30** Spellbound (7157) **7.00** LAPD (5070) **7.30** M*A*S*H (9761) **8.00** Who Do You Do? (1490) **8.30** Coppers (6475) **9.00** Walker, Texas Ranger (68624) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (18001) **11.00** Law and Order (90235) **12.00** David Letterman (5812910) **12.45am** V (7287397) **1.30** Anything But Love (69378) **2.00-8.00** Hit Mix (3503303)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (3078983) **9.30** Worldwide Report (14070) **10.30** ABC Nightline (18506) **11.00** News and Business (73662) **1.30pm** CBS News (40833) **2.30** Destinations (6438) **3.30** Ooh La La (1983) **4.00** News and Business (87898) **5.00** Live at Five (3983) **8.30** *Tonight (8419)* **8.00** News and Business (9032) **8.30** O.J. Simpson (20362) **9.30** O.J. Simpson Open Line (61186) **10.00** O.J. Simpson (18085) **11.30** CBS News (72341) **12.30am** ABC News (58213) **1.30** Tonight Replay (76113) **2.30** Destinations (43910) **3.30** Ooh La La (55755) **4.30** CBS News (72787) **5.30-6.00** ABC News

SKY MOVIES

10.00am The Man Who Wouldn't Die (1993) (54896) **12.00 How to Steal the World** (1968) (67419) **2.00pm Manhattan Murder Mystery** (1993) (89983) **4.00 Last A Dog** (1982) (9273) **6.00 The Man Who Wouldn't Die** (1993) As 10am (86419) **8.00 Manhattan Murder Mystery** (1993): As 2pm (8194) **10.00 Where The Day Takes You** (1992) (418322) **11.45 Death Ring** (1991) (553612) **1.15am Lies of the Heart** (1994) (192262) **2.55 Torchlight** (1984) (1774945) **4.25-8.00 Last A Dog** (1962): As 4pm (952868)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

12.00 The Enemy Below (1957) (32322) **2.00pm A Time to Love and a Time to Die** (1957) (55233780) **4.15 The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima** (1952) (95270322) **6.00 The Lowest** (1972) (82631) **8.00 Julia** (1977) (61148) **10.00 First Blood** (1982) (805896) **11.45 Peeping Tom** (1960) (989780) **1.30am-3.40 Monnie Dearest** (1981) (70216736)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Tarzan's Secret Treasure (1941) (12967) **8.00 What Next?** (1974) (38351) **9.00 Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde** (1986) Cartoon (48419) **10.00 Meet Me in Las Vegas** (1956). Romantic musical (52438) **12.00 Where Are My Children?** (1994) (947341) **1.45pm Alexander the Great** (1956) (56074983) **4.00 What Next?** (1974): As 8am (52964) **5.00 Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde** (1986). As 9am (7051) **6.00 Where Are My Children?** (1994). As noon (63726) **7.30 UK Top Ten** (2099) **8.00 Deep Red** (1994) (12506) **9.30 Interceptor** (1992) (187815) **11.05 Crimebroker** (1993) (121544) **12.50am The Night We Never Met** (1993) (855552) **2.30 Red Rock West** (1993) (854026) **4.10-6.00 Tarzan's Secret Treasure** (1941): As 6am (610910)

● For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree (91383709) **6.30 Muppet Babies** (13950902) **7.00 Winnie the Pooh** (59930761) **7.30 Ducktales** (59888809) **8.00 Rescue Rangers** (21444322) **8.30 Adventures in Wonderland** (24143893) **9.00 Fraggle Rock** (24167273) **9.30 Pooh Corner** (91051877) **10.00 Dumbo's Circus** (13941254) **10.30 Quack Attack** (24163457) **11.00 Walt Disney Presents** (59888534) **12.00 FILM: Little Spies** (1986) (13921490) **2.00pm Wonderland** (65829709) **2.30 Under the Umbrella Tree** (23082324) **3.00 Fraggle Rock** (65831544) **3.30 Winnie the Pooh** (23064186) **4.00 Quack Attack** (23043693) **4.30 Ducktales** (23049877) **5.00 Rescue Rangers** (65803761) **5.30 Danger Bay** (23063457) **6.00 Tarzan** (23053070) **6.30 Faerie Tale Theatre** (90322815) **7.30 The Making of Pocahontas** (23040508) **8.00-10.00** FILM: Room Service (1938) (21088780)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sports Centre (29761) **7.30** Wrestling (48896) **8.00** Aerobics (50815) **9.00** *Tight Lines* (83992) **10.00** Pole Position (37780) **11.00** Trans World Sport (57544) **12.00** Aerobics (69816) **12.30pm** Rugby Union (78051) **1.00** American Sports (73506) **2.00** WDC World Team Championship (356490) **5.00** Wrestling (7457) **6.00** Sports Centre (98070) **7.00** Ice Hockey (78255099) **9.25** Sport (492815) **9.30** Boxing (56099) **11.30** Sport (26542) **12.30am** Ice Hockey (52397) **2.30-4.30** Boxing (13668)

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00am Rugby Club (56520699) **7.00** Darts (6229322) **10.00** Mountain Bikes (48855259) **10.30** Finish Line (4894273) **11.00-12.00** The Rugby Club (2230235)

EUROSPORT

8.30am Golf (54709) **9.30** Eurolun (92631) **10.00** Rallycross (39148) **11.00** Motorcycling (86998) **11.30** Formula 1 (36457) **12.00** Tennis (1926761) **7.30pm** News (2083) **8.00** Wrestling (39964) **9.00** Boxing (43728) **10.00** Truck (46915) **11.00** Golf (75761) **1.00-1.30am** News (82991)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (48817091) **8.30** Peyton Place (4873798) **9.00** As the World Turns (6753198) **10.00** Guiding Light (2239506) **11.00-12.00** Another World

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Globetrotter (4884896) **12.30pm** Kidz (5937790) **1.00** Sports Vacations (2253196) **1.30** Cooking in USA (5936051) **2.00** Ticket to Paradise (1705896) **2.30** Travels in Europe (8933525) **3.00** Independent Travellers Guide (4202709) **4.00** Video Trips (9824877) ***4.30*** *Zoolite* (9973761) **5.00** Ticket to Paradise (1796148) **5.30-6.00** Around the World (5937341)

TLC

9.00am Painting (7428273) **9.30** Preserving (7001438) **10.00** Scotland's Larder (1165877) **10.30** Soul Mates (7424457) **11.00** Only Human (9903815) **12.00** Youth Express (7415709) **12.30pm** Jimmy's (7005254) **1.00** Preserving (9907631) **1.30** Painting (7004525) **2.00** The Right Thing? (9915759) **2.30** Get Well Soon (7126099) **3.00** Scotland's Larder (9934815) **3.30-4.00** Two's Country (7121544)

UK GOLD

7.00am Jossy's Giants (9977490) **7.30** Neighbours (9996525) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (7407780) **8.30** EastEnders (7408051) **9.00** The Bill (7420631) **9.30** The Sullivans (7003995) **10.00** Bergerac (9992709) **11.00** Dallas (9906273) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7417167) **12.30pm** Neighbours (7007612) **1.00** EastEnders (9976761) **1.30** The Bill (7006993) **2.00** The Sullivans (9924435) **2.30** Triangle (7128457) **3.00** Everybody's Equal (9936773) **3.30** Eldorado (7129902) **4.00** Casualty (9924083) **5.05** Every Second Counts (4197506) **5.45** Are You Being Served? (4415544) **6.25** EastEnders (9254631) **7.00** Eldorado (9926254) **7.30** I Woke Up One Morning (7280254) **8.05** Maresome and Wise (9956525) **9.00** Miami Vice (1544186) **10.00** The Bill (2117167) **10.35** Classic Sport (5097254) **11.35** The Young Ones (7662693) **12.15am** Dr Who: Planet of Evil (3079134) **12.45** FILM: The Club (1980) Australian Rules Football (5856303) **2.25** Shopping

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Casper (35983) **6.30** Garfield (34780) **7.00** Pink Panther (86902) **7.30** Sonic (71709) **8.00** Sweet Valley High (95254) **8.30** Casper (5877708) **8.45** Dinobabies (5865983) **9.00** Tiny TCC (42709) **11.00** Sesame Street (80457) **12.00** Tiny TCC (45896) **2.00pm** Barney (1438) **2.30** Binky Bill (5780) **3.00** Sonic (3273) **3.30** Pink Panther (7525) **4.00** California Dreams (6032) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (5544)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Rise and Shine (56815) **9.00** Nick Jr (343780) **12.00** Lunchbox (334032) **3.00** Chill Out (362780) **6.00-7.00** Larger than Life (84612)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Untamed Africa (5349761) **5.00** Vanishing Worlds (9925167) **6.00** Future Quest (9240438) **6.35** Beyond 2000 (6296790) **7.30** History's Mysteries (7107964) **8.00** Lonely Planet (1532964) **9.00** Wings over the World (1542726) **10.00** Fangs! (1545815) **11.00-12.00** China (9664780)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: The Veil (1958) Horror with Boris Karloff (1172167) **2.00pm** Saint (1153032) **3.00** Robin Hood (9921341) **3.30** The Protectors (7118070) **4.00** Film (1960). Two Way Stretch (9932457) **5.00** Death Valley Days (7114254) **5.30** The Wild Wild West (1546051) **7.30** Robin Hood (7194490) ***8.00*** *Saint* (1519490) ***9.00*** *Man in a Suitcase* (1539254) **10.00-12.00** FILM (1985): Car Trouble (5356051)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (7326254) **6.55** Present Yourself (61389908) **7.00** Living (92597051) **8.55** Present Yourself **9.00** Going to Pot (7471341) **9.30** Kate and Allie (1690149) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (1399761) **11.00** Young and Restless (4095235) **11.55** A Cook's Tour of France (6062352) **12.30pm** Entertainment Now! (81688032) **12.55** Inflatuation UK (78809964) **1.05** Hilloy (8923612) **2.00** Agony Hour (4917709) **3.00** Living (9526780) **4.00** Inflatuation UK (9265623) **4.30** Crosswits (7128896) **5.05** The Joker's Wild (87861867) **5.30** Bewitched (9285257) **6.00** Esther (9275070) **6.30** On the Bed (3969254) **7.05** Present Yourself (3778902) ***7.35*** *The Joker's Wild* (8297490) ***8.00*** *Young and Restless* (7080506) **8.55** Present Yourself **9.00** FILM (1985): Love on the Run (17171964) **10.55** Entertainment Now (9998525) **11.00-12.00** Dangerous Women (1350490)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm The Wonder Years (5490) **5.30** Tintin (122457) **5.50** Batman (673436) **6.25** Carrotpharaa (2656693) **7.00** Through the Keyhole (5254) **7.30** The Fall Guy (33360) **8.30** Home to Roost (8269) **9.00** The Ruth Rendall Mysteries. The Veiled One (76070) **10.00** Busman's Holiday (99070) **10.30** Moonlighting (82506) **11.30** Batman (54544) ***12.00*** *The Fall Guy* (10649) **1.00am** *Zorro* (40939) **1.30** Rhoda (76842) **2.00** Moonlighting (68303) **3.00** Rhoda (26303) **3.30** Zorro (16007) **4.00** The Wonder Years (20200) **4.30-5.00** The Black Stallion (21604)

MTV

6.00am Awake (36893) **7.30** The Grind (73167) **8.00** 3 From 1 (5881322) **8.15** Awake (8164051) **9.00** VJ Mania (986896) **12.00** Soul of MTV (28070) **1.00pm** Greatest Hits (19790) **2.00** Music Non-stop (35419) **3.00** 3 From 1 (5387032) **3.15** Music Non-stop (6949186) **4.00** Cinematic (3789322) **4.15** Hanging Out (6044934) **5.00** News (1718490) **5.15** Hanging Out (5424709) **6.30** Dial MTV (8254) **6.00** Real World London (5167) **6.30** *The Pulse* (6419) **7.00** Hanging Out (88544) **8.00** Greatest Hits (659684) **9.00** Most Wanted MD (22761) **10.30** Beavis (64148) **11.00** News (552419) **11.15** Cinematic (568070) **11.30** Oddities (56802) **12.00** Party Zone (50661) **2.00am** Videos

VH-1

7.00am Power (2252457) **9.00** Cafe (19646311) **12.00** Heart and Soul (5658273) **1.00pm** Vinyl (5934893) **2.00** Del Amitri (4985709) **3.00** Into the Music (2519322) **6.00** VH-1-2-3 (5954457) **7.00** For You (2476877) **8.00** Backtrack (1787490) **8.30** Bon Jovi (1706525) **9.00** Shania Richie (2465761) **10.00** Vinyl Years (3475148) **11.00** Around (2238693) **12.00** Nightfly Rocks (5458281) **2.00am** Dawn Patrol

CMT

48
MOTOR SPORT 41
DRIVING AMBITIONS FUELLED AT SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

SPORT

FRIDAY OCTOBER 6 1995

BOXING 44
LEWIS FACING FRESH CHALLENGE FROM MORRISON

Stoke put a price on cup-tie romance

BY PETER BALL

STOKE CITY could not have had a better reward for beating Chelsea on Wednesday. The highlight of yesterday's draw for the third round of the Coca-Cola Cup takes the FA Carling Premiership leaders, Newcastle United, to the Victoria Ground.

After Hughes and Gullit, Stoke now face Ginola and Ferdinand and the other leading lights of the most enterprising and, at the moment, the most successful side in the country. It should be a night to remember.

The romance, however, was lost on Lou Macari, the Stoke manager, who instead was relishing the financial rewards. "The game is all about money now," he said. "Those who've got it have got a chance. But if you are broke, it's impossible. I didn't dare tell the players just how desperate the club was for them to win at Chelsea. We are so skint that a cup run is the only way I can see any light at the end of the tunnel."

The other Endsleigh Insurance League giantkillers had mixed fortunes. York City's reward for beating Manchester United is a trip to Loftus Road, which offers little glory, little money and little prospect of further progress — if a side capable of winning 3-0 at Old Trafford can ever be discounted.

"If we can approach the game in the same way and we are allowed to play our football, it could help to settle us, and we must have a chance," Alan Little, the York manager, said. Bradford City have also had little luck, facing a trip to Norwich City, of the first division. Their performance at Nottingham Forest on Wednesday, however, suggests that the East Anglia club would write them off at their peril.

By contrast, Millwall's win at Everton has brought them a home tie against Sheffield Wednesday, which offers both a big night and hopes of further progress against one of the more fragile Premiership teams.

The efforts of Stockport County and Bury, who saw off first division opponents, have also yielded different rewards. Stockport's prize for winning at Ipswich is the tie that Alan Little wanted, a visit to Villa Park to meet the team managed by his brother, Brian. The financial return will enable County to rest more easily. "It's like winning the lottery," Brendan Elwood, the Stockport chairman, said. Bury were less fortunate, drawing an away tie at Reading.

The draw also offered the prospect of some further giantkillers emerging. Barnsley are among the first division leaders, and a win over Arsenal, who visit Oakwell, would put the South Yorkshire side in that category once again.

Danny Wilson, the Barnsley player-manager, was ecstatic, a

THIRD-ROUND DRAW

Stoke City v Newcastle United
Watford v Blackburn Rovers
Reading v Bury
Queens Park Rangers v York City
Coventry City v Tottenham Hotspur
Southampton v West Ham United
Derby County v Leeds United
Millwall v Sheffield Wednesday
Birmingham City v Tranmere Rovers
Wolverhampton Wanderers v Charlton Athletic
Bolton Wanderers v Leicester City
Crystal Palace v Middlesbrough
Norwich City v Bradford
Barnsley v Arsenal
Aston Villa v Stockport County
Liverpool v Manchester City

☐ *Ties to be played week commencing October 23*

and not just for financial reasons. "Hopefully our new stadium will be full for the first time," Wilson said. "It should be a tremendous learning experience for my team."

It is not a tie which Arsenal will relish. Nor will Leeds United look forward to visiting the Baseball Ground with unalloyed pleasure. In times past, when Derby County met Leeds on equal terms, it would have been the match of the round, as it was in the FA Cup sixth round in 1973, when a tense meeting was fuelled by Brian Clough's blistering criticisms of the team he was soon to manage.

Now the attraction of the meeting between one of the first division stragglers and one of the Premiership leaders is the chance of a giantkilling.

If Derby can keep Tony Yeboah at bay, a task beyond most Premiership defenders, Leeds's vulnerability in cup competitions could surface again.

After their win over Swindon Town, the Premiership champions, Blackburn Rovers, face another tricky tie against Watford, of the first division. "If we can't pack Vicarage Road when the Premiership champions come to town, then we never will," Glenn Roeder, the Watford manager, said.

Although the draw may have made Ray Harford, the Blackburn manager, flinch, he at least had the comfort of knowing he had secured the services of Lars Bohinen from Nottingham Forest. The £700,000 fee, considerably less than his market price of £2 million, was made possible by a clause in his Forest contract limiting his transfer value.

If meetings between two Premiership sides hardly come into the giantkilling category, Manchester City will have to do the next best thing if they are to survive a

Robson chases Juninho – 46
Cantona in reserves —— 46

visit to Anfield — poor recompense for their first win of the season, against Wycombe.

The other all-Premiership tie takes Tottenham Hotspur to Coventry City, evoking memories of the 1987 FA Cup Final, one of the outstanding finals of modern times.

Injury delivers cruel blow to Montgomerie

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN BERLIN

SO MUCH for the battle of the tartan titans in Berlin. Yesterday, it ended before it had even begun when Colin Montgomerie withdrew after a first round of 76, four over par, in the Mercedes German Masters at the rural Motzener See Golf and Country Club, not too many miles south of the Brandenburg Gate.

A miserly £980.12 ahead of Sam Torrance at the top of the Volvo Order of Merit, Montgomerie was on his way home to rest a sore left wrist before Torrance had reached the turn. The fairway telegraph wasted no time in relaying the message to Torrance, whose first thought was: "I've just got to make the cut to go back to No 1."

His subsequent 71 ranked as ordinary on a course conducive to low scoring. Ernie Els started 63, 64 last year, when the cut was level par, and this year Per-Ulrik Johansson, Klas Eriksson, Anders Forsbrand and Retief Goosen all opened with rounds of 64. Perhaps more significantly, Bernhard Langer, the founder of the tournament and an outside contender for the European top spot, returned a round of 67, despite putting poorly.

Even before he teed off, Torrance knew Montgomerie had struggled to the turn in 40, five over par, and he started suitably exuberantly with two birdies. Then he hit "a stinking five-iron" at the short 3rd, ended up in one of the many lakes and notched up a double-bogey five.

"I got tense after that," Torrance confessed and, after splashing into the water again at the long 8th, he never quite recovered his equilibrium.

He still has what he called "impetus", however, fuelled by the high-octane thought of

Wales on brink 40

being No 1 in the order of merit for the first time after 25 years on the European Tour. Montgomerie, more weary, first had treatment on his wrist at the German Open seven weeks ago and constant play since has not helped. He had trouble completing his backswing, was in the water twice on his outward half and Guy Delacave, head of the tour's much-used physiotherapy unit, recommended a few days' complete rest: "No golf, no gardening."

At least Montgomerie's financial worries should be of



Montgomerie watches a drive sail down the fairway at the 17th before his withdrawal from the Mercedes German Masters yesterday

start, but Russell was not getting carried away. He has seen too much heartbreak, although he understands the compulsion.

"It's a dream, isn't it?" he said. "You're trying to fulfil a dream ... until you turn round and think: 'God, I owe the bank £50,000.' " Then you look at the first prize of £108,000 and think: 'If I can win that . . ' "

LEADING FIRST-ROUND SCORES

GB and Ire unless stated
64: K Eriksson (Swe), P-U Johansson (Swe), A Forsbrand (Swe), R Goosen (SA). *65:* P Eales. *66:* M-A Jimenez (Sp), R Claydon. *67:* D J Russell, M Mackenzie, G Turner (NZ), S Lyle, B Langer (Ger), T Lehman (US), J Sandelin (Swe), J Haeggman (Swe), G Levenson (SA), S Timming (Den), S Luna (Sp), P Hedblom (Swe) *68:* S Grappasonni (It), J Cocares (Arg), M-A Martin (Sp), J Payne, P Mitchell, J Pamevik (Swe), J Townsend (US), F Lindgren (Swe) *69:* S Ames (Trin), A Bossert (Switz), M Davis, P Teravainen (US), A Coltart, S Struver (Ger), M Lanner (Swe), B Marchbank, A Sherborne, U Eckhardt (Ger), M Harwood (Aus), S Richardson, R Karlsson (Swe), J Rivero (Sp). *70:* P O'Malley (Aus), H Thul (Ger), J Spence, A Sorensen (Den), J Van de Velde (Fr), E O'Connell, I Palmer (SA), P Curry, I Garrido (Sp) *71:* P Quinci (Switz), R Rafferty, M Gronberg (Swe), V Fernandez (Arg), P Baker, R Boxall, R Bertorat (Ger), P Way, R Allenby (Aus), S Torrance, J Gronhagen (Swe), A Murray, J-M Canizares (Sp), R Drummond, W Westner (SA), P Broadhurst, M McLean, J Lomas. *72:* O Eckstein (Ger), L Westwood, D Cooper, I Woosnam, C Mason.

Hallett has card marked by Hall

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

SIR John Hall, the chairman of Newcastle United Football Club, met Tony Hallett at Twickenham yesterday for an exchange of views over the future of rugby union. Hallett, the Rugby Football Union (RFU) secretary, welcomed the opportunity to speak with the man whose adoption of Newcastle Gosforth has extended the perimeters of open rugby at the earliest opportunity.

He admitted it was a "learning curve" so far as the administration of professional sport was concerned: "He told me a few home truths about how football was run and I expressed my views about rugby union's future," Hallett said before reporting to the latest meeting of the RFU Commission, whose focus yesterday was on playing contracts.

Hall has strong views about the validity of rugby's existing playing regulations and, as he builds a stronger squad of players at Newcastle, will seek to employ them as soon as possible. Technically, the RFU moratorium on professionalism prohibits him from doing so this season, but Hall will not want to watch Newcastle, who have won only one league game out of four this season, flirt with relegation to the third division when his ambition is to see them in the top flight.

The RFU Commission, which has three sittings next week, will meet representatives from football, cricket and other sports; having sat down with representatives of England's first division clubs, the commission plans to listen to representatives from the lower divisions.

Television calls tune 41

Meanwhile, France's players seek to establish a first division association, following the example set last month by their leading clubs, who have formed a mutual benefit society. The concern is for leading club players as well as internationals whose representatives are pressing for direct representation in the decision-making process.

Italy, who are likely to reject full-scale professionalism, yesterday suspended Claudio de Rossi, the Treviso full back, after a positive drugs test during a national training weekend. He was found to have taken the steroid, nandrolone.

Australia include Tonga defectors

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

RATHER than playing for Tonga at Warrington on Sunday, Jim Dymock and John Hopoate, who were controversially poached from the island kingdom's rugby league World Cup squad, will make their international debuts for Australia at Wembley tomorrow.

Dymock was originally included as the Tonga captain before defecting with Hopoate to the world champions. Both players figured in the Pacific Cup victory by Tonga last year, but have sought greater rewards. "They were key strike players," Mike McClennan, the coach, said. Bob Fulton, the Australia coach, obviously held the same opinion in naming them yesterday in the side to face England in the opening match tomorrow.

Dymock has relegated Jason Smith, who is lacking match practice after an ankle injury, to the substitutes' bench. Hopoate will line up on the left wing while Geoff Toovey, who has been troubled by injury, was passed fit to start at scrum half opposite Shaun Edwards, the England captain.

On top of defections and injuries to several leading players, McClennan said that Afi Leuila, who is joining Oldham after the World Cup, had been left behind because of problems over a work permit. Three players based in England, Asa Amone (Halifax), Tevita Vaikona (Hull), and George Mann (Leeds), are included for the match with New Zealand on Sunday.

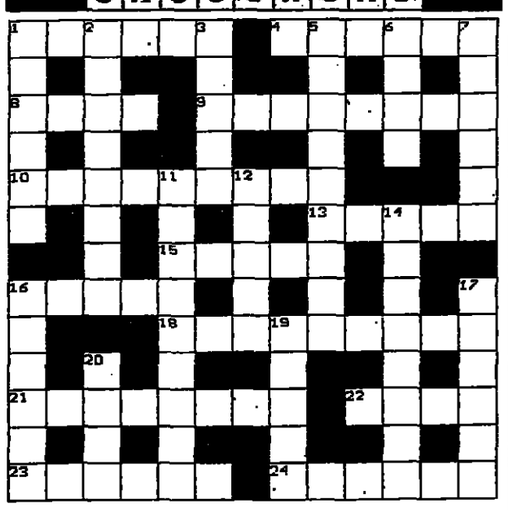
T Brasher (Sydney Tigers); R Wishart (Illawarra), M Coyne (St George), T Hill (Manly), J Hopoate (Manly); B Fittler (Penrith, captain), G Toovey (Manly); D Gillespie (Manly), W Bentzien (St George), M Carroll (Manly), S Menzies (Manly), D Fay (Sydney Bulldogs), J Dymock (Sydney Bulldogs).

Substitutes: R O'Davis (Newcastle), P Harragon (Newcastle), M Johns (Newcastle), J Smith (Sydney Bulldogs).

Wales name their selection today for their opening group game with France at Cardiff on Monday. Welsh players have been urged to forget speculation about a return to rugby union by Jonathan Davies, the captain. "Jonathan wants to concentrate on the World Cup, and everything else has been put in the background until it is over," Clive Griffiths, the Wales coach, said.

Old rivals do battle, page 40

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 593

ACROSS
1 The ordered universe (6)
4 Accommodation with civilian (6)
8 Dispose of (4)
9 Act menacingly (8)
10 Hatching equipment (9)
13 *At no time* (5)
15 US state on NE coast (5)
16 Lame (leg) (5)
18 Huge, short-coated dog (5,4)
21 Anything that; of any kind (8)
22 Comfortable multi-seater (4)
23 Distant (6)
24 *Bring to an end; make anxious* (4,2)

DOWN
1 Othello's lieutenant (6)
2 Misuse of grammar (8)
3 Sacred text (Hindu, Buddhist) (5)
5 Seriously purposed (2,7)
6 Recently dead (4)
7 *Gentle; soft; painful* (6)
11 Help yourself (2,2,5)
12 Cheap, thin dress material (5)
14 *Tramp* (8)
16 Stare sullenly, angrily (6)
17 Do a flit (6)
19 Missile; pointer (5)
20 *To work the land* (4)

The solution to 592 will be published Wednesday, October 11

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